



Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy

All staff receive Cheshire East's statutory training on Safeguarding Children (Child Protection), and we are aware of the signs and symptoms of child abuse, physical, emotional, and sexual, and those of neglect. This training is renewed annually.

If a member of staff suspects a child is at risk or is showing signs of abuse, they must report it to the designated safeguarding lead immediately. It is every practitioner's responsibility to know who the designated safeguarding lead is on any given day.

If we have reason to believe that any child in our care is being abused in any way, the designated safeguarding lead will report the matter to the Duty Social Worker for Social Services' Child protection Team. Under these circumstances we will not be able to keep information relating to your child confidential, but will need to share it with Ofsted, Social Services, and the Police if requested.

Please see the Allegations of Abuse Policy regarding how we protect staff, colleagues and family from allegations being made against us.

As a childcare setting, we take lead responsibility for safeguarding children and we are responsible for liaising with the local statutory children's services agency, and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

We will inform Ofsted of any allegations of serious harm or abuse by any person living, working, or looking after children at the setting (whether the allegations relate to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere). We will also notify Ofsted of the action taken in respect of the allegations.

These notifications will be made as soon as is reasonably practicable, but at the latest within 14 days of the allegations being made.

Whilst your child is in our care, we will utilise digital cameras and mobile technology which includes, but is not limited to, mobile phones, tablet devices and other forms of electronic storage. These devices will be used to store digital photographs and other electronic data. Whilst using these devices within and outside of the setting, we will follow these guidelines:

We will seek your permission to allow a camera, mobile phone or other digital device to take and store photographs, for record keeping or display purposes.

If using a camera, mobile phone or other digital device to take photographs of your child, the photographs will be uploaded to Blossom for daily diaries, observations, or from time-to-time advertising purposes. The photographs will then be removed from the devices.

We will not distribute or publish any images of your child without your consent.

We will always be able to justify to Ofsted the reason for taking the photographs.

We will always ensure children are appropriately dressed.

We are registered with the Information Commissioners Office - the Data Protection Act.

Our responsibility as a childcare setting is to ensure the safety and welfare of all the children in our care in line with the procedures laid out by the LSCB. The LSCB is responsible for producing Safeguarding Children Procedures based on national guidelines set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children (Dept. of Education & Skills). It monitors the effectiveness of the Procedures systematically and amends them as it becomes necessary.

Useful Telephone Numbers:

Social Care: Cheshire East - 03001235010

Police Station: Hazel Grove - 01614562896

Local Early Years Team: Cheshire East - 03001235012

Ofsted: 0300 123 4666

For more information contact us:

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