



Building Bricks Child Care

A place to grow

Safeguarding Policy

Statement of intent

We work with children, parents and the community to ensure the safety of children and to give them the very best possible start in life.

Aim of the policy

Our overall aim is to ensure children in our care are kept safe from harm through implementing this policy and promoting children's right to be strong, resilient and listened to by:

- Creating an environment that encourages children to develop a positive self image, which includes their heritage arising from their colour and ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural traditions and home background.
- Encouraging children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence.
- Enabling children to have the self-confidence and the age appropriate vocabulary to keep themselves safe.
- Helping children to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within their families, with peers, and with other adults.
- Working with parents to build their understanding of and commitment to the Principles of safeguarding all our children.
- Being alert to any issues for concern in the child's life at home or elsewhere.

Procedure

We have a responsibility to report any concerns about the safety and welfare of a child. We will report any actions or conversations which make us suspect that a colleague, parent or other adult is abusing a child whether in our care, in their home or within the community. In some circumstances the abuse could be from another child or young person.

Disclosure from a child/young person

Should a child or young person disclose to a member of staff then there are specific procedures to follow to ensure the safety of the child/young person, the member of staff and any evidence that may be given.

The following guidance must be adhered to:

- 1) Do not promise to keep the disclosure secret - but say that you will only tell the people who need to know to ensure their safety
- 2) Always reassure the child/young person and tell them that you believe them
- 3) Ask questions **ONLY** to clarify detail. **NEVER** ask 'leading questions'. For example **"Was it step-dad that did this?"**
- 4) **Do not** discuss with parents/carers or try to investigate yourself
- 5) Document and report events as soon as possible

Concerns regarding signs of abuse or behaviour in a young person, or concerns about the behaviour of a member of staff

Should we be concerned about a child's physical state or their behaviour then the reporting procedures below should be followed. In most, but not all, instances parents/carers should be informed that a referral has been made.

Likewise, if a member of staff gives cause for concern then the same procedure must be followed.

In all cases where a child or young person requires medical attention then this will be dealt with first.

Reporting Procedures

- We work within the Local Safeguarding Children Board guidelines.
- We have regard to the Government's statutory guidance 'Working together to Safeguard Children' see www.education.gov.uk/publications. If we have concerns about children's safety or welfare, we will notify agencies with statutory responsibilities without delay (This means the North Somerset's Referral and Assessment Team and, in emergencies, the police).
- We follow North Somerset's Safeguarding Procedure for Early Years and Play Providers.
- We notify Ofsted of any allegations of serious harm or abuse by any person living, working or looking after children on our premises. This is done within 14 days of these allegations.
- If a referral is to be made to North Somerset's Referral and Assessment Team, we act within North Somerset's Safeguarding Procedure for Early Years and Play Providers in deciding whether we must inform the child's parents at the same time

Contact details

Referral Co-ordination and Assessment Unit: 01275 888266 office hours

Police Child Protection Team: 01934 638171

Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team: 01454 615165

Child's Name.....DOB (if known).....

Child's Address.....

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Contact telephone number.....

Is this the child's own phone? Yes/No

Parent/carers details if known:

Name(s).....

Address.....

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Telephone number.....

Are parents/carers aware of referral? Yes/No

If 'No' please give reasons.....

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Any other agencies involved with child (if known)

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Family composition (if known)

Family Name	First Name	Relationship to child	DOB (If known)

Full details of concern

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