



1.1 Child Protection and Safeguarding

Our aim:

The welfare of the child is paramount. We will work with children, staff, parents, trustees and the community to ensure the safety of children and create a safe environment for all.

Values and Principles:

- All children without exception have the right to protection from abuse regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, beliefs or family circumstance.
- The policy applies to everyone involved in the daily life of the setting including staff, trustees, visitors, students, volunteers and the children it protects.
- All concerns, and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously by trustees, staff and volunteers and responded to appropriately - this may require a referral to children's services and in emergencies the Police.
- We encourage the children to develop protective behaviors and develop their own strategies for keeping safe. This includes nurturing their independence, ability to make choices and finding names for their feelings.
- We are committed to safe recruitment, selection and vetting of practitioners. All adults in regular contact with the setting must have a DBS check. Their ongoing suitability is checked.
- We have developed safe, monitored working practices, including ensuring that adults are never alone with children.
- Parents are asked to declare any current or past involvement with social workers or health visitors when they register for a place at the nursery.
- We follow procedures recording and informing parents/guardians about accidents and serious incidents at nursery and ask parents to inform us about marks and bruises that happen at home.
- Children and parents/guardians are informed of this policy when an amendment is made and are reminded about the nurseries obligations to child protection on a regular basis.
- All practitioners must be familiar with this policy, receive regular child protection training and keep up to date with best practice.

Responsibilities:

Our named person who co-ordinates child protection issues is:

Tracy Fernley-Jones, Nursery Manager

In their absence the named person is:

Eleni Kasparis and Michelle Morley, Deputy Nursery Managers

They can be contacted on 01273 686687 or 07704836582 or at nursery@puffin-brighton.co.uk

They are responsible for:

- Over- seeing the implementation of this policy and procedures relating to it and ensuring that they comply with those approved by the Local Safeguarding Children Board.
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with parents and carers, practitioners and volunteers.
- Monitoring that practitioners attend training that includes recognising signs of abuse and appropriate responses, so that they are aware of the local authority guidelines for making referrals.
- Ensuring that all new staff receive a thorough induction including safeguarding procedure.
- That all staff know the procedures for reporting and recording their concerns in the nursery.
- Notifying OFSTED about any referrals to social services, allegations of serious harm or abuse against a child while the child is in our care and any changes in our arrangements which affect the well-being of the child.
- Liaising with other bodies and working within the Area Child Protection Committee guidelines as needed. Including the Local Safeguarding Children Board or the child's Health Visitor when there is uncertainty about whether the concerns and needs are to be referred.

Key contacts:

When a child is at risk of harm or there are clear signs of abuse:

Front Door for Families

Telephone: 01273 290400 Email: FrontDoorForFamilies@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

Emergency out of hours number: 01273 335 905 Police: Emergency 999 Non Emergency: 101

Prevent Officer: Nahida Shaikh

Tel: 01273 290584 email: Nahida.shaikh@brighton-hove.gov.uk

It is not the role of the manager or any nursery practitioner to decide whether a child has been abused or to investigate, this is the role of the local authority and police.

The relevant legislations, standards and guidance used as a framework for this policy and the related procedures are:

- The Children Act 1989
- Data Protection Act 2018
- GDPR 2018
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Protection of Children Act 1999
- The Children Act 2004 (Every Child Matters)
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015)
- Sussex Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures