



KIRKGATE CHILDCARE

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

The designated Safeguarding Lead for Kirkgate Childcare is Dawn Stevenson.

Kirkgate Childcare is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults that we come into contact with. We believe all staff, students, volunteers and visitors have an important and unique role to play in child protection. Safeguarding children is vital and part of the legal requirements of our Ofsted registration.

We believe:

- All children have the right to be protected from harm.
- Children need support which matches their individual needs, including those who may have experienced abuse.
- Children need to be safe and feel safe in our setting.

Our nursery provides care, support and learning opportunities which support children and families to realise their full potential. It is essential that Kirkgate Childcare is a safe place where everyone feels safe, secure and confident to enjoy resources and know they will receive appropriate help, if and when needed. We work together with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. Social inclusion is promoted and children are encouraged to behave in a respectful way to others around them.

This policy is intended to support all staff, students and volunteers to create a safe environment and to ensure a clear understanding of our duty of care. Children are best protected when professionals are clear about what is required of them individually and how they need to work together. We will also be following the North Yorkshire County Council's Local Safeguarding Policy, procedures and guidance. (Displayed and copies available on request).

Effective child protection is essential at Kirkgate Childcare. The welfare of every child we look after is paramount and everyone (this includes all staff, students, volunteers and visitors) has a responsibility to ensure that any areas of concern involving a child who may be at risk of harm are recognised and dealt with immediately.

As a child care provider, we have a moral of duty of care to ensure that any concerns or incidents of suspected abuse or harm are reported to the relevant Local Safeguarding Children's Board without delay. Parents will be made aware of any concerns and their consent will be sought in accordance with local procedures unless doing so would increase the risk of harm to the child.

The safety of children is maintained in the following way:

- Valuing them, listening to them and respecting them.
- Established key person system. Through the attachments they form with those who look after them, children feel safe and secure and, where they may present risky behaviour, they experience positive support. Staff respond with clear boundaries about what is safe and acceptable and they seek to understand the triggers for children's behaviour.
- All children must be signed in and out of the nursery.
- Children are checked in and out during outdoor play which ensures a child is never left unattended.
- Accident forms, both at nursery and at home, are recorded and monitored.
- Mobile phones are not permitted within the nursery environment. Staff's mobile phones are to be kept in a locked cupboard during operational hours. Children's learning opportunities and achievements will be captured using the nursery I-pad, following safeguarding protocol and guidance highlighted in the Ofsted Framework.
- There will always will be a paediatric First Aider on site.
- All staff have accessed Prevent Duty training and are aware of the importance of reporting any concerns and closely monitoring children and families for any signs of radicalisation.
- All staff have accessed Safeguarding training which is evidenced in their personal file and staff training days.
- Safeguarding is discussed in staff supervisions and team meetings.

We ensure the safety and security of the premises and equipment by following the following actions:

- High security fencing around the premises and secure external doors
- The lock on the door is out of children's reach and is secured as people enter and exit the premises.
- Clear sign communicating to parents/visitors not to let people into the building.
- All resources and equipment are checked regularly for safety.
- All electrical equipment is (PAT)checked annually.
- The nursery environment, both indoors and outdoors, will be checked at the beginning of each day for any potential safety issues.
- Termly fire drills and safety checks are completed.
- A risk assessment will be implemented for all current and new activities. All staff follow clear risk assessments and respond consistently to protect children while at the same time enabling them to take age appropriate and reasonable risks as part of their growth and development.

We control the suitability of people within the nursery (Please refer to our staffing and recruitment policy.)

- All staff understand the written procedures for managing allegations, they know how to make a complaint

- All adults collecting children from the nursery will have to be nominated and identified beforehand and will need to state an agreed password.
- All external nursery doors are secure at the entrances to identify visitors before entry is allowed.
- Visitors are checked into and out of the nursery and never left unsupervised during childcare hours.
- All staff sign in and out of premises.
- All visitors are to sign in and out, read the welcome letter which includes the mobile phone policy and putting belongings in the locked cupboard. Professionals visiting the nursery are expected to show ID to the person answering the door.