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**Rated good June 2017**

**The role of the Designated Safeguarding Lead**

Within our setting we have three members trained as Designated Leads (DSL) With Julie being the Lead; Denise as the Deputy and Emily as the Backup should either Julie or Denise be away from the setting.

The overarching role of the DSL is to keep the settings safeguarding practices at the highest level, thus with multiple leads they can regularly discuss actions required to ensure we are at the top of our game when it comes to child safeguarding, below are some of the parameters that their role entails.

**The Role of the designated lead overview.**

* Identify how parental behaviours (substance/alcohol misuse, mental health, and domestic abuse impacts on children's wellbeing)
* Understand the threshold for referrals into agencies.
* Make quality referrals to MASH. (This is an external department for the safeguarding of children)
* Consider how some cultural beliefs impact on children's safety and wellbeing and know how to respond.
* Understand the role of local agencies and where to access local information and guidance.
* Learn lessons from serious case reviews.
* Understand the LADO process and when to make referrals. (This is a external department with roles regarding staff/settings safeguarding to children).
* Identify ways to help children keep themselves safe.
* Ensure safeguarding is embedded in your process induction & supervision.