

**Child protection policy**

**The Chelsfield Nursery and Pre-school**

Acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice.

**This policy:**

a) applies to all adults including the Directors, volunteers, paid staff, agency staff and anyone working on behalf of The Chelsfield Nursery and Pre-school;

b) recognises that the welfare and interests of children and young people are paramount in all circumstances; and

c) aims to ensure that all children and young people have a positive and enjoyable experience of education in a safe and child centred environment and are protected from abuse whilst participating in said education.

The Chelsfield Nursery acknowledges that some children and young people, including those disabled and those from ethnic minority communities, can be particularly vulnerable to abuse and accepts the responsibility to take reasonable and appropriate steps to ensure their welfare.

**The Chelsfield Nursery and Pre-school**

1. promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people.

2. ensure that everyone is clear about their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify, and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people.

3. provide all the parents of the children joining the Setting, the nursery’s safeguarding arrangements;

4. widely promote the nursery’s safeguarding policies and procedures.

5. ensure that staff and volunteers take seriously all concerns and allegations of abuse and respond appropriately.

6. securely maintain and store confidential, detailed and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns.

7. prevent the use of unsuitable individuals through the robust use of Disclosure and Barring arrangements as they apply in each nation within the UK, and the application of best practice in the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers working with children and young people.

8. ensure that robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation.

9. address without delay any failure to comply with this policy.

Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed annually, and revisions recommended to the management team. This policy may also be reviewed in the following circumstances:

·     Changes in legislation or government guidance (including Working Together as revised within each nation, relevant legislative changes and nation specific child protection and safeguarding policies and procedures);

·     In the light of learning identified by a Local Safeguarding Children Board;

·     As a result of any other significant change or event.

Reviewed and updated to covid 19 see attached

As of February 2022, Covid 19 restrictions are beginning to be relaxed, whilst we still follow the reviewed and updated policy this may change in the near future.

Covid 19 restrictions are no longer in place.

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| This policy was adopted by | The Chelsfield Nursery |  |
| On | 20/03/2023 |  |
| Date to be reviewed | March 2024 |  |
| Signed on behalf of the provider |  |
| Name of signatory | Gary Carter |
| Role of signatory  | Director |

**COVID 19 UPDATES AND ADJUSTMENTS** Date February 2022

* CIN meetings/child protection meetings are now virtual (on-line via laptop)
* Contact with outside agencies are now exclusively telephone/ email using an encryption protocol
* Regular follow ups when a child is reported isolating for lockdown purposes (at this time there are no lockdown procedures in place).