



Child Protection Policy

Prevention and Detection of Abuse

At Lilliput Lane Nursery we intend to create an environment in which children are safe from abuse and in which any suspicion of abuse is promptly and appropriately responded to. The nature of the care and interaction in the nursery and the length of time children spend there may mean that staff could be the first to become aware of signs of physical, emotional or sexual abuse in children.

Lilliput Lane will actively promote messages to children about their personal safety and protection. Children will be given the opportunity to discuss a number of elements including personal safety, labelling body parts, stranger danger, telling an adult, expressing feelings and good and bad secrets. Parents will be invited to look closely at the content and source material of any such sessions before subject is covered. Where possible modifications will be made to accommodate individual parental wishes

All individuals working with children have a duty and responsibility to report any allegations and concerns of a child protection nature, which come to their attention. Significant changes in a child's behaviour or physical appearance will be investigated. Parents will normally be the first point of reference, although suspicions will be referred as appropriate to the Social Services Department. All efforts will be made to be as open and honest as possible with parents from the outset about any concerns.

The staff of Lilliput would be concerned if they were to observe the following:

- Bruising on particular parts of the body e.g. ears, mouth, eyes or under arms
- Outline bruising e.g. belt marks
- Linear bruising on the buttocks and different aged bruising
- Bite marks, scars, fractures and burns

The non physical signs:

- Low self esteem
- Constantly seeking to please
- Being fearful
- Withdrawn. Lack of social skills
- Head banging/rocking
- Development delay

Should we feel that any of the above is happening to a child in our care, The Child Protection Procedure will be adhered to.

Child Protection Procedure

1. Any practitioner, volunteer or student on placement suspects that a child is suffering abuse should report it to the Nominated Child Protection Co-ordinator (NCP), parents /carers should not be contacted at this point, nor should the child be questioned further
2. If any child is considered to be in urgent need of medical attention then arrangements should be made to take the child to A and E department at The Royal Alexandra Hospital
3. The NCPC will discuss concerns with the member of staff and, if appropriate with others. The NCPC may consult informally with the duty officer of Social Services Assessment Service or a member of the police child protection team. At this stage details of the child's name, date of birth and address should be provided to enable social services to check whether or not the family is known.