

# SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

## (Formerly Child Protection)

### Supporting Information

For all staff, parent/carers and visitors to the Kingsway Children's Centre

The Nursery has a duty to be aware that abuse does occur in society. This statement indicates the procedures that will be taken if we have reason to believe that a child in our care is subject to emotional, physical, sexual abuse or neglect.

Our prime responsibility is:

- To protect the welfare and well-being of all children in our care
- To ensure that children are never placed at risk whilst in the charge of Nursery staff
- To ensure that all learners working within the Nursery will be supervised at all times
- To regularly raise staff awareness of safeguarding issues and procedures
- To ensure that all staff are familiar with local area safeguarding policies and procedures
- To ensure that all parents/carers are familiarised with the nurseries safeguarding policy

We believe that we have a duty of care to the children in our care, parents/carers and staff to act quickly and responsibly in response to any disclosure that may come to our attention.

The Nursery has a duty to report any suspicions regarding abuse concerning a child at the setting to the Local Authority. The Children Act 1989 (section 47-1) places duty on the Local Authority to investigate such matters. The Nursery will follow the procedures set out in the Local Safeguarding Children's Board Guidelines (LSCB) and as such will seek their advice on all steps taken subsequently. We will also comply with College policy and procedure.

### 1. Physical Abuse

Action will be taken under this heading if the staff has reasonable cause to believe that there has been a physical injury to a child, including deliberate poisoning, where there is a definite knowledge, or a reasonable suspicion that the injury was deliberately inflicted or knowingly not prevented.

Procedure

- Any sign of a mark/injury to a child when they arrive at Nursery will be recorded
- The incident will be discussed with the parent/carer
- Discussions will be recorded and the parent/carer given access to such records
- If there appears to be any queries regarding the injury the Local Authority Social Services Department will be notified and the Assistant Principal Quality Improvement & Student Support/Principal will be informed.

### 2. Sexual Abuse

Action will be taken under this heading if the staff team have witnessed occasions where a child indicated sexual activity through words, play, drawing or had excessive pre-occupation with sexual matters, or had an inappropriate knowledge of adult sexual behaviour.

Procedure

The matter will be referred to the Local Authority Social Services Department and the Assistant Principal Quality Improvement & Student Support /Principal informed.

### **3. Emotional Abuse**

Action will be taken under this heading if the staff have reason to believe that there is a severe adverse effect on the behaviour and emotional development of the child caused by persistent or severe ill treatment or rejection.

Procedure

- The concern will be discussed with the parent/carer
- Such discussion will be recorded and the parent/carer will have access to such records
- If there appears to be any queries regarding the circumstances the Local Authority Social Services Department will be notified and the Director of Assistant Principal Quality Improvement & Student Support/Principal will be informed.

### **4. Neglect**

Action will be taken under this heading if the staff team have reason to believe that there has been a persistent or severe neglect of a child (e.g. by exposure to any kind of danger, including cold and starvation) which results in serious impairment of the child's health or development.

Procedure

- The concern will be discussed with the parent/carer
- Such discussion will be recorded and the parent/carer will have access to such records
- If there appears to be any queries regarding the circumstances the Local Authority Social Services Department will be notified and the Assistant Principal Quality Improvement & Student Support/Principal will be informed.

### **5. Discrimination Abuse**

Guidelines under the Youth, Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999 indicates that we are required to be aware of discrimination towards people, especially vulnerable or intimidated persons and it's implications. Examples include:

- Racist remarks or attacks on the person
- Sexist remarks or offensive behaviour
- Disability remarks or offence of any kind
- Harassment of any kind, including slurs or similar treatment.

**This policy directly relates to the North Lindsey College Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy.**

Ref:POL0011/8/9

**Reviewed: January 2015 M. Lawrence**