

Home-Grown in Malvern Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy

Date:.....

Review Date:.....

Introduction

The Home-Grown in Malvern team believe that 'children learn best when they are healthy, safe and secure, when their individual needs are met, and when they have positive relationships with the adults caring for them' (EYFS 2012).

The Home-Grown in Malvern team fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding children under the current legal framework and this policy will support us in meeting these requirements.

The EYFS, Child Protection states:

- Providers must take all necessary steps to keep children safe and well (para 3.2)
- Providers must have and implement a policy, and procedures, to safeguard children. These should be in line with the guidance and procedures of the relevant Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) (para 3.4)
- Providers must have regard to the Government's statutory guidance '*Working Together to Safeguard Children*' (DCSF 2010: Consultation Draft DfE 2012) If providers have concerns about children's safety or welfare they must notify agencies with statutory responsibilities without delay. This means the local children's social care services and, in emergencies, the police (para 3.7)

The Aims of the Home-Grown in Malvern team Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy and Procedures are to:

- Ensure our practice is in line with the guidance and procedures of Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB)
- Ensure that our setting has measurable, effective procedures in place to safeguard the children in our care
- Support our staff to understand their roles and responsibilities
- Inform parents/carers of our safeguarding/child protection procedures
- Clarify the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against a member of staff and/or any person living, working or looking after children at the premises
- Determine the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting

Legal Framework:

- Under Section 40 of the Childcare Act 2006 - (*Setting name.....*) has a duty to comply with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS 2012), and to take all necessary steps to keep children safe and well
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006)

- Data Protection Act (1998)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DCSF 2010:Consultation Draft, DfE 2012)

Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB)

'WSCB consists of senior representatives of the main agencies which have a statutory responsibility to safeguard children. It is a forum for establishing and guiding the services in Worcestershire to safeguard, protect and promote the well-being of children'.

Designated Senior Member of Staff for Safeguarding (DSMS)

The EYFS, Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements, state that:

- A practitioner must be designated to take lead responsibility for safeguarding children in every setting (DSMS)
- The lead practitioner (DSMS) is responsible for liaison with local statutory children's services agencies, and with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)
- The lead practitioner (DSMS) must provide support, advice and guidance to any other staff on an ongoing basis, and on any specific safeguarding issue as required
- The lead practitioner (DSMS) must attend a child protection training course that enables them to identify, understand and respond appropriately to signs of possible abuse and neglect, taking account of any advice from the LSCB or local authority on appropriate training courses

At Home-Grown in Malvern the DSMS is Denise Williams and the Deputy DSMSs are Natalie Luce and Hannah Evans.

Training

The EYFS 2012 states that:

- Providers must train all staff to understand their safeguarding policy and procedures
- Training made available by the provider must enable staff to identify signs of possible abuse and neglect at the earliest opportunity, and to respond in a timely and appropriate way

WSCB and Worcestershire County Council (WCC) recommend that:

- The DSMS/Deputy DSMS update their safeguarding training every two years
- Childminders maintain up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues; it is recommended that training is refreshed every two years
- All other practitioners, including childminding assistants update their safeguarding knowledge every three years

At Home-grown in Malvern:

- All necessary steps are taken to keep children safe and well

- We ensure all staff are able to recognise signs of possible abuse and neglect through a thorough induction process, attendance at child protection training and effective supervision
 - The WSCB and WCC recommendations regarding staff training are followed
 - Current safeguarding/child protection training certificates are stored in the office area of the playroom.
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Further safeguarding guidance is available via the WSCB web-site at <http://www.worcestershiresafeguarding.org.uk>, including:

- Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board Inter-agency Procedures <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/safeguarding-children/inter-agency-procedures.aspx>
- [Worcestershire Practitioners Guide to Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children \(Pocket Guide\) WSCB April 2009](#)
- What to do if you're worried a child is being abused – Summary (DfES 2006) <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/pdf/WSCB%20-%20whattodoif%20full%20summary.pdf>