



OPERATIONAL PLAN STANDARD 13 – CHILD PROTECTION

Supporting Documentation S13.1 Safeguarding Policy and Procedure

Policy Statement

Kaleidoscope nursery is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and staff in our care. We believe that every one has the right to be safe, happy, and to have the opportunity to reach their full potential. This policy outlines our commitment to creating a safe environment and the procedures we follow to safeguard the children at our nursery. This policy is based on the statutory guidance outlined in *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (2018, updated 2020) and *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (2024).

2. Aims of the Policy

- To protect children from harm, abuse, and neglect.
- To provide a safe environment for children to learn and develop.
- To ensure staff and volunteers understand their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding children.
- To ensure appropriate action is taken when child protection concerns arise.
- To ensure signs and symptoms in staff and volunteers that require safeguarding measures are acted upon.

3. Legislation and Guidance

This policy is based on the following legislation and statutory guidance:

- *Children Act 1989 and 2004*
- *Education Act 2002*
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (2023)
- *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (2024)
- *The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework* (2025)
- *Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners Providing Safeguarding Services to Children, Young People, Parents, and Carers* (May 2024)
- *Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) guidance*

4. Definitions of Abuse We recognise the following categories of abuse, as defined in *Working Together to Safeguard Children*:

- **Physical Abuse:** Causing physical harm to a child.
- **Emotional Abuse:** Persistent emotional maltreatment affecting a child's emotional development.
- **Sexual Abuse:** Forcing or enticing a child to participate in sexual activities.
- **Neglect:** Persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and psychological needs.



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5. Roles and Responsibilities

- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): We have a number of DSL's - Chantelle Matts, Amanda Dyer, Kathleen Extance and Steph Atkins. The DDSL's are Chantelle Coles and Helen Friday-Ross, and act as a point of contact in the DSL's absence. The DSL's have overall responsibility for child protection issues and ensure that staff are trained, policies are followed, and concerns are appropriately referred to external agencies. The DSL's are available for staff to consult with regarding any safeguarding concerns at any time.
- Staff: All staff have a responsibility to:
 - Recognise signs of abuse.
 - Record and report concerns to the DSL.
 - Maintain an attitude of "it could happen here."
 - Attend regular safeguarding training.

6. Recognising and Reporting Abuse All staff should be aware of the signs of abuse and neglect. If a member of staff has concerns about a child's welfare, they should:

- Record the concern as soon as possible, detailing facts, observations, and any discussions with the child.
- Report the concern immediately to the DSL.
- If the child is in immediate danger or at risk of harm, staff should contact emergency services directly.

7. Safeguarding Procedures

- **Referral to External Agencies:** The DSL will make a referral to Children's Social Care if there is a concern that a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. Parental consent should be sought before making a referral unless doing so would place the child at greater risk.
- **Allegations Against Staff:** If an allegation is made against a member of staff, including the DSL, it must be reported immediately to an alternate DSL. The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) will be contacted for guidance on managing the allegation.
- **Whistleblowing:** Staff are encouraged to raise concerns about poor or unsafe practice and potential failures in the nursery's safeguarding arrangements. Concerns should be raised at the earliest possible time.
- **Information Sharing:** Information will be shared in line with the *Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners Providing Safeguarding Services to Children, Young People, Parents, and Carers* (May 2024). Information will be shared only with those who need to know to protect the child, ensuring that the child's best interests are prioritised.



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8. Safer Recruitment and Training

- The training for all of the Designated Safeguarding and Deputy Safeguarding Leads is provided by Dorset Nexus and is the PDSCP Multi-Agency Working together in Safeguarding Level 3. This is updated every 2 years. DSL's will also have Safer Recruitment training which should be updated annually.
 - We follow safer recruitment procedures to ensure that all new staff and volunteers are suitable to work with children. This includes conducting enhanced DBS checks, obtaining 2 references, and ensuring that gaps in employment history are explored.
 - All staff will receive induction training that includes:
 - Safeguarding and Child Protection policies and procedures.
 - The role of the DSL.
 - How to recognize signs of abuse and neglect.
 - Procedures for reporting concerns including LADO.
 - Regular safeguarding training Level 2 and training annually.
 - Updates on local area
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9. Online Safety We recognise the importance of keeping children safe online. Staff are trained to identify risks associated with online activity, such as exposure to inappropriate content or grooming. We ensure that children have a safe online experience by:

- Using appropriate filters on nursery devices, and only allowing children to age-appropriate content.
 - Educating children, where age-appropriate, about online safety.
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10. Prevent Duty Kaleidoscope Nursery is committed to fulfilling its obligations under the *Prevent Duty* (2025). We will:

- Provide training to staff on recognizing signs of radicalisation.
 - Build children's resilience to radicalization through promoting British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect, and tolerance.
 - Report any concerns regarding radicalization to the DSL, who will follow the local referral process.
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11. Monitoring and Review This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if there are changes in legislation or guidance. The review will consider any changes in legislation, feedback from staff, and any lessons learned from safeguarding cases.

The Safeguarding Policy will be made available to all parents, carers, and staff, and a copy will be available in the nursery reception and on our website.



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Key Contacts

Dorset:

- LADO: 01305 221122 | Email: LADO@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
- Family Support & Advice Line: 01305 228558
- Out of Hours: 01305 221000
- Families/Public: 01305 228866
- Families with Named Social Worker: 01258 474036

Somerset:

- Family Front Door Consultation Line: 0300 123 3078
- Children's Social Care (MASH): 0300 123 2224 | Email: childrens@somerset.gov.uk

Police:

- Non-Emergency: 101
- Emergency: 999

Cross-Reference with: S4.1 Confidentiality Policy and Procedure S4.2 Data and Information Sharing and Record Keeping Policy S11.1 Behaviour Management Policy and Procedure S12.2 Partnership with Parents S13.2 Child Protection Policy and Procedure	Date of Review: 01.11.25 Next Review Due: 01.11.26 Approved by: KMT
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