



Safeguarding of children

Child protection Policy Statement

Goostrey Pre-School is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for children and young people to be cared and educated in.

Goostrey Pre-School believe that it is always unacceptable for a child or young person to experience abuse of any kind and we recognise our responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children and young people, by a commitment to practice which protects them.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Provide protection for all the children and young people who are in our care;
- Provide staff and volunteers with guidance on procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing, or be at risk of, harm.

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers, paid staff, volunteers, sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of **Goostrey Pre-School**.

Our Safeguarding of Children Co-ordinator (SOCCO) is: **Mrs Maureen Bayley**.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child/young person is paramount;
- All children, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity have the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse and have the right to freedom from abuse;
- Working in partnership with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies (including children's services, the police and OFSTED) is essential in promoting young people's welfare;
- All our staff and volunteers need to be carefully selected and accept responsibility for helping to prevent the abuse of children in their care.

We will endeavour to safeguard children and young people by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them;
- Adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers;
- Responding quickly and appropriately to all suspicions or allegations of abuse or issues relating to child welfare;
- Providing parents/carers and children with the opportunities to voice any concerns they may have;
- Ensuring that access to confidential information is stored and managed in accordance with National Guidance;
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely and ensuring that all necessary checks are made;
- Improving knowledge of children, parents/carers, staff and volunteers by sharing information about child protection and encouraging good practice;
- Sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know (such as children's services, the police and OFSTED) , and involving parents and children appropriately;
- Providing effective management for all staff and volunteers through supervision, support and appropriate safeguarding training;
- Informing OFSTED, with 14 days, of any allegations of serious harm or abuse by any person living, working or looking after children at the premises (whether that allegation relates to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere), or any other abuse which is alleged to have taken place on the premises, and of the action taken in respect of these allegations.

We are also committed to ensuring that our child protection policy is a living document which is reviewed and updated at least annually.