

SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The safety and well-being of a child is our primary responsibility.

We believe that all children have the right to grow up in an environment that is free of abuse. We at Branston Pre-School have a commitment to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in our care. Our policy is inclusive and does not discriminate against any child whatever their race, ability, gender, religion, culture, language or social background. We recognise and value the vitally important role all staff and volunteers have in safeguarding children's welfare, ensuring that children are listened to and encouraged to talk.

We will ensure that our staff receive relevant training in Safeguarding Children and that all staff understand their responsibilities. It is our duty to report any concerns we may have regarding the children in our care. Every member of our staff will know where the safeguarding policy can be located and what they should do if they have any child protection concerns.

We will designate a keyworker group for each child who will be the liaison point between all relevant agencies, other staff and parents/carers. We will keep accurate and confidential records, and will develop an effective action plan for managing children's behaviour.

We recognise that children with special needs are more vulnerable to abuse, and we have a Special Needs Co-ordinator.

All staff and helpers have a duty to share relevant information about the protection of children with other staff or professionals.

If a member of staff has a concern about a child, the key-worker will be informed. A decision about how to inform the parents of our concerns will be made with minimum people concerned. Our staff are made aware of the importance of protecting themselves against allegations of abuse and are seldom alone with the children.

Only staff or volunteers who have been DBS checked will be allowed to ever be alone with the children.

Confidential records kept on a child are shared with the child's parents of those who have parental responsibility for the child only if appropriate under the guidance of the Staffordshire Safeguarding Children Board.

The care and safety of the child in our group is paramount and we will do all in our power to support and work with the child's family. We will direct families towards professional services depending on individual circumstances and seek out any other information that may be of help.