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Document.	0022	Safeguarding Children Policy			
Revision	18	Approved By	Katy Taylor	Approval Date	16/01/2024

Scope

This policy applies to all provision for early years aged children, and also – where appropriate – to before and after school provision and walking bus provided by **The Duchy Pre-school and Playgroup** for primary school aged children attending The Duchy School in Bowley Meadow.

Purpose and Aims

The purpose of **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup's** safeguarding policy is to provide a secure framework for the workforce in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of those children/young people who attend our setting. The policy aims to ensure that:

- All our children are safe and protected from harm.
- Other elements of provision and policies are in place to enable children to feel safe and adopt safe practices;
- Staff, children, trustees, visitors, volunteers and parents are aware of the expected behaviour and the setting's legal responsibilities in relation to the safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all of our children.

Ethos

'Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enable them to fulfil their potential.. A secure, safe and happy childhood is important in its own right.' Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Safeguarding in The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup is considered everyone's responsibility and as such our setting aims to create the safest environment within which every child has the opportunity to achieve their full potential. The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup recognizes the contribution it can make in ensuring that all children registered or who use our setting feel that they will be listened to and appropriate action taken. We will do this by working in partnership with other agencies in accordance with **Working Together to Safeguard Children March 2015 updated 2018¹ updated 2023** and seeking to establish effective working relationships with parents, carers and other colleagues to develop and provide activities and opportunities that will help to equip our children with the skills they need. This will include materials and learning experiences that will encourage our children to develop essential life skills and protective behaviours.

Responsibilities and expectations

The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup has trustees whose legal responsibility it is to make sure that the setting has an effective safeguarding policy and procedures in place and monitors that the setting complies with them.

The trustees should also ensure the following:-

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

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- that the safeguarding policy is made available to parents and carers if requested.
- that all staff and volunteers are properly checked to make sure they are safe to work with the children who attend our setting.
- that the setting has procedures for handling allegations of abuse made against members of staff (including the Manager) or volunteers.
- the safe and appropriate use of cameras, mobile phones, technology, and online equipment within the setting.
- the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 which places a duty on early years and childcare providers “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” (The Prevent Duty) is implemented, taking into account the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board ‘Prevent’² policies, protocols and procedures and ensuring the Fundamental British Values are implemented as stated in the EYFS.
- a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is appointed who has lead responsibility for dealing with all safeguarding issues in our setting. **The Safeguarding Designated Lead is Katy Taylor; the Deputy is Charlotte Calaway out of hours Justine Reed**
- Identify the **Named Member of the Trustees/Committee for Safeguarding is the Chair. Hannah Mears.**

The responsibilities for the Designated safeguarding lead (DSL) are: -

- to ensure that all safeguarding issues raised in setting are effectively responded to, recorded, and referred to the appropriate agency.
- Be responsible for arranging the whole settings safeguarding training for all staff and volunteers who work with the children and young people. The DSL must ensure that the whole settings safeguarding training takes place at least every three years; which they can deliver in-house provided they are linked in to the support and quality assurance process offered by the Local Authority and the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board.
- to attend or ensure that a senior member of staff who has the relevant training and access to appropriate supervision, attends where appropriate, all child protection case conferences, reviews, core groups or meetings where it concerns a child in our care and to contribute to multi-agency discussions to safeguard and promote the child’s welfare.
- for ensuring the acceptable, safe use and storage of all camera technology, images, and mobile phones through the implementation, monitoring and reviewing of the appropriate policies and procedures. This includes the on-line Safety Policy which includes Camera & Image Policy, Mobile Phone Policy, Acceptable Use Policy.
- Interrupting and implementing the Fundamental British Values.

All Child Protection concerns need to be acted on **immediately**. If you are concerned that a child may be at risk or is actually suffering abuse, you must tell the Safeguarding Designated Officer.

All Adults, including the DSL have a duty to refer all known or suspected cases of abuse to the relevant agency including MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub), Children and Young Peoples Service (CYPS) – Social Care, or the Police. Where a disclosure is made to a visiting staff member from a different agency, e.g. Early Years Consultants, Health Visitors, it is the responsibility of that agency staff to formally report the

²<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>
http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/Fundamental_British_Values.pdf

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referral to the Setting’s Designated Person in the first instance. Any records made should be kept securely on the Child’s Protection file.

Safer Recruitment and Selection

It is a requirement for all agencies to ensure that all staff recruited to work with children and young people are properly selected and checked. At **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** we will ensure that we have a member on every recruitment panel who has received the appropriate recruitment and selection training. That all of our staff are appropriately qualified and have the relevant employment history and checks to ensure they are safe to work with children in compliance with the Key Safeguarding Employment Standards. All those whos are employed at the Duchy Preschool are DBS and the higher level.

British Values

The Prevent Duty Guidance defines British values as “democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs”.

All Early years’ settings in England are required to promote British values in their settings, through activities focused on Personal, Social and Emotional Development, as well as Knowledge and Understanding of the World.

By taking part in these kinds of activities, children will hopefully build their resilience to radicalisation and gain the confidence to challenge extremist views in later life.

We will provide suitable, age-appropriate opportunities which encourage children to respect each other’s views, beliefs and values, to understand that their opinions count, and to talk about their feelings. Activities will involve turn taking, sharing and collaboration. Children will be encouraged to understand their own and others’ behaviour and its consequences. They will have an input in creating rules and codes of behaviour for the setting. An ethos of total acceptance of all views, faiths, cultures and races will be created, where children will appreciate and respect their own and others’ culture.

Prevent Duty

The Prevent Duty was published in 2015 and it identifies the duty of care that all early years’ practitioners have to be vigilant in order to help to prevent children from being drawn into terrorism.

So what does that mean for Duchy Preschool

In order for Duchy Preschool to fulfil the Prevent Duty, it is essential that they are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation and know what to do if they are identified. Protecting children from risk of radicalisation should be seen as part of Duchy preschool wider safeguarding duties and is similar in nature to protecting children from other abuse, whether these come from within their family or are the product of outside influences.

As a preschool we are aware that there is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with all safeguarding issues, I will be alert to changes in children’s behaviour which could indicate that they may be in need of help or protection. We are aware that any child, from any background, can be the victim of radicalisation and as such, will report any concerns about a child.

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We will not discriminate based on the colour of their skin, their social class, their cultural background or any other such factors. All concerns will be passed on to Children's Services.

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Recognising concerns, signs and indicators of abuse

Safeguarding is not just about protecting children from deliberate harm. For our setting it includes such things as child safety, bullying, racist abuse and harassment, visits, intimate care and internet safety etc. However, it must be acknowledged that technology itself will not present the greatest risk, but the behaviours of individuals using such equipment will. The witnessing of abuse can have a damaging effect on those who are party to it, as well as the child subjected to the actual abuse, and in itself will have a significant impact on the health and emotional well-being of the child. Abuse can take place in any family, institution or community setting, by telephone or on the internet. Abuse can often be difficult to recognise as children may behave differently or seem unhappy for many reasons, as they move through the stages of childhood or their family circumstances change. However, it is important to know the indicators of abuse and to be alert to the **need to consult further**.

Physical Abuse

This can involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, punching, kicking, scalding, burning, drowning and suffocating. It can also result when a parent or carer deliberately causes the ill health of a child in order to seek attention through fabricated or induced illness. This was previously known as Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional Abuse is where a child's need for love, security, recognition and praise is not met. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of someone else such as in Domestic Violence or Domestic Abuse. A parent, carer or authority figure is considered emotionally abusive when they are consistently hostile, rejecting, threatening or undermining toward a child or other family member. It can also occur when children are prevented from having social contact with others or if inappropriate expectations are placed upon them. Symptoms that indicate emotional abuse include:

- Excessively clingy or attention seeking.
- Very low self-esteem or excessive self-criticism.
- Withdrawn behaviour or fearfulness.
- Lack of appropriate boundaries with strangers; too eager to please.
- Eating disorders or self-harm.

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Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether the child is aware of what is happening or not. This may include physical contact both penetrative and non-penetrative or viewing pornographic material including through the use of the internet. Indicators of sexual abuse include allegations or disclosures, genital soreness, injuries or disclosure, sexually transmitted diseases, inappropriate sexualized behaviour including words, play or drawing.

Child Sexual Exploitation is a form of abuse of which involves children (male and female, of different ethnic origins and of different ages) receiving something (e.g., food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) in exchange for sexual activity. It can occur through the use of technology without the child's immediate recognition.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs which can significantly harm their health and development. Neglect can include inadequate supervision (being left alone for long periods of time), lack of stimulation, social contact or education, lack of appropriate food, shelter, appropriate clothing for conditions and medical attention and treatment when necessary.

Domestic Abuse

The Government defines domestic abuse as “**Any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality**”.

Staff need to understand what is required of them if children are members of the household where domestic abuse is known or suspected to be taking place. Our policy includes action to be taken regarding referrals to the Police and Children and Young People's Services and any action to be taken where a member of staff is the alleged perpetrator or victim of domestic abuse. At **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** we will follow our safeguarding policy and report any suspected concerns regarding Domestic Abuse to the relevant agency.

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Current Safeguarding Issues

(The following Safeguarding issues are all considered to be child Protection issues and should be referred immediately to the most relevant agency. The issues featured below are linked to guidance and local procedures which can be found on the Southwest Child Protection Procedures at www.swcpp.org.uk (Direct links to the policies listed below are included where available).

Some members of our communities hold beliefs that may be common within particular cultures, but which are against the law of England. **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** does not condone practices that are illegal, and which are harmful to children. Examples of practices are:

Child Exploitation and E-Safety

Children and young people can be exploited and suffer bullying through their use of modern technology such as the internet, mobile phones, and social networking sites. In order to minimize the risks to our children and young people **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** will ensure that we have in place appropriate measures such as security filtering, and an acceptable use policy linked to our E-Safety policy. We will ensure that staff are aware of how not to compromise their position of trust in or outside of the setting and are aware of the dangers associated with social networking sites.

Our E-safety policy will clearly state that mobile phone, camera, or electronic communications with a child at our setting is not acceptable other than for approved setting business. Where it is suspected that a child is at risk from internet abuse or cyber bullying, we will report our concerns to the appropriate agency.

Forced Marriage

The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup does not support the idea of forcing someone to marry without their consent.

Under-age Marriage

In England, a young person cannot legally marry until they are 16 years old (without the consent of their parents or carers) nor have sexual relationships.

Genital mutilation/female circumcision

This is against the law, yet for some communities it is considered a religious act and cultural requirement. It is illegal for someone to arrange for a child to go abroad with the intention of having

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her circumcised. If any of the above areas of concern is brought to the attention of **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** we will report those concerns to the appropriate agency in order to prevent this form of abuse taking place.

Ritualistic Abuse

Some faiths believe that spirits and demons can possess people (including children). What should never be considered is the use of any physical or psychological violence to get rid of the possessing spirit. This is abusive and will result in the criminal conviction of those using this form of abuse even if the intention is to help the child.

Sexually Active under Eighteen years old

It is acknowledged by those working with young people that most young people under the age of 18 will have an interest in sex and sexual relationships. The Protocol for Sexually Active Young People under 18 years old has been designed to assist those working with children and young people to identify where these relationships may be abusive, and the children and young people may need the provision of protection or additional services.

Safeguarding Disabled Children

Disabled children have exactly the same human rights, to be safe from abuse and neglect, to be protected from harm and achieve the Every Child Matters outcomes.

Disabled children do however require additional action. This is because they experience greater risks and ‘*created vulnerability*’ as a result of negative attitudes about disabled children and unequal access to services and resources, and because they may have additional needs relating to physical, sensory, cognitive and/ or communication impairment (*Safeguarding Children, DCSF, July 2009*) **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** will ensure that our disabled children are listened to and responded to appropriately where they have concerns regarding abuse. In order to do this, we will ensure that our staff and volunteers receive the relevant training to raise awareness and have access to specialist staff in the event they have concerns regarding abuse of a child.

Honour Based Violence

Honour based violence’ is a crime or incident, which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community’. It is important to be alert to signs of distress and indications such as self-harm, absence from setting, infections resulting from female genital mutilation, isolation from peers, being monitored by family, not participating in setting activities, unreasonable restrictions at home. Where it is suspected that a child/young person is at risk form Honour based violence **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** will report those concerns to the

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appropriate agency in order to prevent this form of abuse taking place.

Trafficked Children

Child trafficking involves moving children across or within national or international borders for the purposes of exploitation. Exploitation includes children being used for sex work, domestic work, restaurant/ sweatshop, drug dealing, shoplifting and benefit fraud. Where **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** is made aware of a child is suspected of or being trafficked/exploited we will report our concerns to the appropriate agency.

Private Fostering

Private fostering is an arrangement made between the parent and the private foster carer, who then becomes responsible for caring for the child in such a way as to safeguard and promote his/her welfare.

A privately fostered child means a child under the age of 16 (18 if a disabled child) who is cared for and provided with accommodation by someone other than:

- A parent.

Radicalisation

The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup will seek to prevent radicalisation of children in its care by promoting British Values through its policies and the implementation of the EYFS, and by taking appropriate action when concerns become apparent.

County Lines

The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup is aware of the issue of criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults.

Children as young as 7 are being put in danger by criminals who are taking advantage of how become trapped in criminal exploitation, the young people involved feel as if they have no choice but to continue doing what the criminals want. (*Information obtained from www.childrenssociety.org.uk*)

The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup recognises it has a duty to identify and report a young person in danger to MASH.

Cuckooing is a form of crime, termed by the police, in which the home of a vulnerable person is

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taken over by a criminal in order to use it to deal, store or take drugs, facilitate sex work, as a place for them to live, or to financially abuse the tenant.

Cuckooing is associated with [county lines drug trafficking](#).

The crime is named after the [cuckoo](#)'s practice of taking over other birds' nests for its young.^{[1][2]}

As of the 2010s, cuckooing was becoming an increasingly common problem in the South of England.

What to do if you are concerned

If a child makes a disclosure or allegation of abuse against an adult or other child or young person, it is important that you:

- Stay calm and listen carefully.
- Reassure them that they have done the right thing in telling you.
- Do not investigate or ask leading questions.
- Let them know that you will need to tell someone else.
- Do not promise to keep what they have told you a secret.
- Inform your Safeguarding Designated Officer as soon as possible.
- Make a written record of the allegation, disclosure, or incident which you must sign, date and record your position using the setting safeguarding record log forms.

If you are concerned that a member of staff or adult in a position of trust poses a danger to a child or young person or that they might be abusing a child or young person, you should report your concerns to the Safeguarding Designated Officer. Where those concerns relate to the Safeguarding Designated Officer however, this should be reported to the *Chair of Trustees* using the setting's 'Whistle blowing' policy.

Managing Allegations

We are aware of the possibility of allegations being made against members of staff or volunteers that are working or may come into contact with children and young people whilst in our setting. Allegations will usually be that some kind of abuse has taken place. This could include inappropriate behaviour displayed by members of staff or other persons working with the children such as inappropriate sexual comments, excessive one to one attention beyond the requirements their role and responsibilities, inappropriate sharing, or images. They can be made by children and young people or other concerned adults. Allegations are made for a variety of reasons:

- Abuse has taken place.
- Something has happened to the child that reminds them of a past event – the child is unable to recognize that the situation and people are different; Children can misinterpret

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your language or your actions.

- Some children recognise that allegations can be powerful and if they are angry with you about something they can make an allegation as a way of hitting out.
- An allegation can be a way of seeking attention.

If an allegation is made against an adult in a position of trust whether they be members of staff or volunteers this should be brought to the immediate attention of the DSL who will advise the **Chair of Trustees**. In the case of the allegation being made against the DSL this will be brought to the immediate attention of the **Chair of Trustees**. The DSL/**Chair of Trustees** will need to discuss with the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) the nature of the allegations made against the adult, in order for the appropriate action to be taken. This may constitute an initial evaluation meeting or strategy discussion depending on the allegation being made. **Chair of Trustees** will need to:

Refer to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) immediately and follow up in writing within 48 hours. Consider safeguarding arrangements of the child or young person to ensure they are away from the alleged abuser.

Contact the parents or carers of the child/young person if advised to do so by the LADO.

Consider the rights of the staff member for a fair and equal process of investigation.

Advise Ofsted of allegation within 14 days of the allegation

Ensure that the appropriate disciplinary procedures are followed including whether suspending a member of staff from work until the outcome of any investigation if this is deemed necessary.

Act on any decision made in any strategy meeting.

Advise the Disclosure and Barring Service ³where a member of staff has been disciplined or dismissed as a result of the allegations being founded.

A copy of “**What to do if you’re worried a child is being abused, Advice for Practitioners³**” booklet is kept with this policy. This sets out the guidelines on dealing with incidents, disclosures and the procedures that must be followed.

Training

All members of staff and volunteers will have access to whole setting safeguarding training at least every three years in line with Devon Safeguarding Children’s Board (DSCB). We will also, as part of our induction, issue information in relation to our Safeguarding policy and any policy related to safeguarding and promoting our children/young people’s welfare to all newly appointed staff and volunteers.

³<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-to-do-if-youre-worried-a-child-is-being-abused--2>

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Our Designated Safeguarding Lead will undertake further safeguarding training, Group 3 DSCB Multi-Agency Safeguarding course or Group 3 Refresher Courses, in addition to the whole setting training. This will be undertaken at least every three years which updates their awareness and understanding of the impact of the wide agenda of safeguarding issues. This will support both the DSL to be able to better undertake their role and support the setting in ensuring our safeguarding arrangements are robust and achieving better outcomes for the children in our setting. This includes taking part in multi-agency training in addition to safeguarding training.

Our *Trustees* will have access to safeguarding training and our Named *Trustee* for Safeguarding will also undertake additional awareness training at least every three years. They will also be advised to undertake additional training to support their employers' role in Handling Allegations against adults who work with children and young people, including our staff and volunteers.

Our safeguarding arrangements are reported on an annual basis to our *Trustees* and our Safeguarding policy is reviewed annually, in order to keep it updated in line with local and national guidance/legislation.

We will include our Safeguarding Policy in our settings prospectus/website and will post copies of our policy throughout the setting. We are also able to arrange for our policy to be made available to parents whose first language is not English, on request.

Mobile Phones and Cameras

The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup has policies and procedures in place with regard to the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting and on visits etc .

Related Setting Policies

Safeguarding covers more than the contribution made to child protection in relation to individual children. It also encompasses issues such as child health and safety, bullying and a range of other issues, for example, arrangements for meeting the medical needs of children, providing first aid, setting security, drugs and substance misuse, etc.

There may also be other safeguarding issues that are specific to the local area or population' *Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education DfES 2007*

This policy will cross reference to related setting policies and other protocol:

0002 Behaviour Management (including bullying and guidance on positive handling) Policy

0005 Confidentiality Policy

0007 Disciplinary Policy

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0008 Equality and Diversity Policy
0012 Grievance Policy
0013 Health and Safety Policy
0014 Data Protection Policy
0015 Inclusion Policy
0019 Parent Involvement Policy
0021 Recruitment & Retention Policy
0030 Appropriate Use of ICT Policy
0033 Public Interest or Whistle Blowing Policy
0035 Intimate care policy

Legislation relating to this policy:

Duchy preschool and playgroup have read, and understand, the following important documents:

- Department for Education Early Years Foundation Stage, Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements (2017)
- Prevent Duty Guidance (2015) updated 1st April 2021
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 updated 1st July 2022
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019) updated 1st September 2022
- What to Do If You're Worried a Child Is Being Abused - A Guide for Practitioners (2015)
- Inspecting Safeguarding in Early Years, Education and Skills Settings (2019) updated 1st September 2022
- Information Sharing Advice for Safeguarding Practitioners (2018)
- Children Act 1989, 2004. Changes 1/07/2022
- Education Act 1996, 2002 (Section 175) updated 2011
- School Standards and Framework act 1998
- Every Child Matters 2003
- Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2014 (updated 1st September 2021)
- The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015

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Useful Contacts:

Devon Safeguarding Childrens Board www.devonsafeguardingchildren.org

South West Child Protection Procedures www.swcpp.org.uk

Devon children and families partnership dcfp.org.uk

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Agency www.ceop.org.uk

NSPCC Safe (Safe Activities for Everyone) Network www.safenetwork.org.uk

CYPS area contact numbers:

(9am - 5pm Monday to Thursday, 9am – 4pm Friday)

Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) 0345 155 1071

email: mashsecure@devon.gcsx.gov.uk

MASH Consultation Line 0345 155 1071 (ask for Consultation Line)

Early Help co-ordination centre 0345 155 1071 (ask for Early Help)

Out of hours for CYPS (Social Care):

5pm -9am and at weekends and public holidays, please contact:

Emergency Duty Service 0845 6000 388 (low-rate call)

Police Central Referral Unit: 0845 605 116

EYCS Consultation Service:

If you have concerns about a child but are unsure whether to make a Social Care referral. The numbers are:

Nikki Phillips – Locality Manager for Exeter, East and Mid Devon 01392 383000

Melissa Filby – Locality Manager for Northern Devon 01392 383000

Susan Bolt - Locality Manager for South West Devon 01392 383000

DSCB

Head of Safeguarding: 01392 386091

DSCB Office: Christina Ashforth 01392 383000

Child Protection Chairs and Local Authority Designated Officers for managing allegations against staff:

Allegations against staff Referral Co-ordinator 01392 384964

Devon’s Domestic Abuse Helpline 0345 155 1074

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Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub – MASH

- Manages contacts and referrals received from any source (usually CYPS and Police 121A reports)
- Develops a document recording the concern information and all other available information in the Hubs within agreed timescales and an Early Years and Families manager makes an informed decision using all of the available information.
- Develops concern information into an Early Years and Families referral if services are required under section 17 or section 47 of The Children Act 1989
- Liaises with the Early Response Service for children and young people who need services but do not meet The Children Act 1989 threshold
- Provides consultation to agency referrers about thresholds, appropriate action to be undertaken and services.

The Hub contributes to improved outcomes for safeguarding children because it has the ability to swiftly collate and share information held by the various agencies and to provide a multi-agency risk assessment of each case for ‘actual or likely harm’.

A copy of the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) Factsheet for Parents available for you to look at **OR** please go to <http://www.devon.gov.uk/mashparentsfactsheet.pdf> for a copy of the MASH Factsheet for Parents”

The above list is not exhaustive and as new policy guidance and legislation develops within the remit of Safeguarding we will review and update our policies and procedures as appropriate and in line with the Devon Safeguarding Children Board and Local Authority.

- A person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility.
- A close relative.
- A Local Authority.

- for more than 28 days and where the care is intended to continue. It is a statutory duty for us at **The Duchy Preschool and Playgroup** to inform the Local Authority via MASH where we are made aware of a child or young person who may be subject to private fostering arrangements.

innocent and inexperienced these young people are. Any child can be exploited, no matter their background.

Criminal exploitation is also known as 'county lines' and is when gangs and organised crime networks groom and exploit children to sell drugs. Often these children are made to travel across counties, and they use dedicated mobile phone ‘lines’ to supply drugs.

Criminals are deliberately targeting vulnerable children – those who are homeless, experiencing learning difficulties, going through family breakdowns, struggling at school, living in care homes or trapped in poverty. These criminals groom children into trafficking their drugs for them with

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promises of money, friendship and status. Once they've been drawn in, these children are controlled using threats, violence and sexual abuse, leaving them traumatised and living in fear. However they

Responsibility for periodic review	Annually Safegurading Lead/ Trustee
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Document History

Rev	Changes	Date	Approval
00	Previous changes incorporated for AGM	17/05/10	AGM
01	Completely re-written to Devon County Council recommended policy	12/01/11	Committee
02	Revised and reviewed for AGM	15/11/11	AGM
03	Change of Safeguarding Trustee to Sera Byrne following resignation of Shelley Chrichard	27/01/12	Business Manager (trustees notified)
04	Various changes resulting from statutory requirements and Devon County Council recommended policy, as indicated in text.	05/09/12	Business Manager (trustees notified)
05	Re-written model policy from Devon County Council, adopted in full with local modifications.	15/07/13	Business Manager (trustees notified)
06	Addition of scope statement.	02/01/14	Business Manager
07	Changes to revision dates of statutory documents	18/05/15	Mng Supervisor
08	Rewritten to encompass April 2015 revision of Local Authority model safeguarding policy	09/06/15	Mng. Supervisor
09	Change of Safeguarding Designated Officer	29/09/15	Mng. Supervisor
10	Rewritten to encompass January 2016 revision of Local Authority model safeguarding policy with the addition of specific provision regarding prevent duty.	05/07/16	Mng. Supervisor
11	Updated names of SDO and named member of the Committee. Added reference to the C0035- Intimate Care policy. Added reference to County Lines issue.	04/07/19	Naomi Lee Gosia Prout

Approved by (signature)	
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Document.	0022	Safeguarding Children Policy		
Revision	17	Approved By	Katy Taylor	Approval Date 16/10/23

Document History

Rev	Changes	Date	Approval
12	Reviewed c	01/01/20	NL
13	Amended dates to prevent legislations Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2014 changed in 21	14/07/21	NL
14	Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 updated 1 st July 2022	2/7/22	NL
15	Keeping Children Safe in Education (2019) updated 1 st September 2022	2/9/22	NL
16	Reviewed and Updated and move things around and put all the types of abuse together for easy reading change deputies Katy Taylor and Justine Reed	1/10/22	NL
17	Reviewed, updated manager and deputies. Changed SDO to DSL	16/10/2023	KT
18	Reviewed and new documents included	16/01/24	KT

Approved by (signature)	
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