

Safeguarding and child protection Policy



DEAN PARK
DAY NURSERY

Purpose and Aims

The purpose of Dean Park Day Nursery's safeguarding policy is to provide a secure framework for the staff 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, proprietors, visitors, volunteers and parents are aware of the expected behaviours' and the settings 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 Dean Park Day Nursery is considered everyone's responsibility and as such, our setting aims to create the safest environment within which children have the opportunity to achieve their full potential. Dean Park Day Nursery recognises 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 2018**¹ 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

Dean Park Day Nursery management has a legal responsibility to make sure that the setting has an effective safeguarding policy and procedures in place and monitors that the setting complies with them.

The management should also ensure the following: -

- 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 Pan Dorset Safeguarding Partnership ‘Prevent’ 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 Designated Safeguarding Lead is Rebecca Mellows.** If they are not available then contact the **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads, Maxine Fish, Bex Ballington and Michaela Lloyd** (*These persons can also be contacted with any safeguarding concerns*).

The responsibilities for the 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 offered by the Local Authority and the Pan Dorset Safeguarding Partnership.
- 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.
- Interpreting 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 DSL.

All Adults, including the DSL, have a duty to refer all known or suspected cases of abuse to the relevant agency including Children’s First response 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 Development officer, Health Visitors, it is the responsibility of that agency’s staff to formally report the referral to the

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

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 affect 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.

Children with SEND

The nursery and its staff are aware and mindful that additional barriers can exist when recognising abuse and neglect in this group of children.

These can include:

- assumptions that indicators of possible abuse such as behaviour, mood and injury relate to the child's disability without further exploration;
- the potential for children with SEN and disabilities being disproportionately impacted by behaviours such as bullying, without outwardly showing any signs; and
- communication barriers and difficulties in overcoming these barriers.

Non mobile children

The nursery and its staff are aware that any mark, bruise or injury for a child who is not yet mobile must be logged and reported to children's first response MASH.

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

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. 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.

Peer on Peer Abuse

Children can be vulnerable to abuse by their peers. Such abuse should be taken as seriously as abuse by adults and should be subject to the same child protection procedures.

Peer on peer abuse can also happen from adult to adult. In any circumstance where peer on peer abuse (coercive, bullying, imbalance of power behaviours) is witnessed or reported Dean Park Day Nursery will refer to its Behaviour Management Policy Guidance.

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 Designated Safeguarding Lead 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.

*‘Not investigating’ does not mean that the staff member receiving the concern cannot ask any questions. However, careful thought needs to be given to how and what questions are asked, avoiding anything that can be interpreted as ‘leading’ the child. (Use the TED guidance for questions, open-ended Tell me Explain to Me describe). The basic rule of thumb is that staff should ONLY ask enough questions of the child to clarify whether there is a child protection concern. Once the child has clarified that they are being harmed or are at risk (or the staff member is reassured that the child is safe), no further questions are required.

You must report the disclosure immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead or deputy who will support you to accurately record the disclosure and follow the procedure for referral.

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 Designated Safeguarding Lead. Where those concerns relate to the Designated Safeguarding Lead however, this should be reported to Jo Storey, the Safeguarding Governance lead, using the settings ‘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 actually 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 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. In the case of the allegation being made against the DSL this will be brought to the immediate attention of Jo Storey, the Safeguarding Governance lead. The DSL 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. DSL or Safeguarding Governance lead 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 Practitioners ³**” booklet is kept with this policy. This sets out the guidelines on dealing with incidents, disclosures and the procedures that must be followed.

Extremism – the Prevent Duty and Radicalisation

Under the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 we have a duty to refer any concerns of extremism to the police (In Prevent priority areas the local authority will have a Prevent lead who can also provide support).

This may be a cause for concern relating to a change in behaviour of a child or family member, comments causing concern made to a member of the team (or other persons in the setting) or actions that lead staff to be worried about the safety of a child in their care.

Alongside this we will be alert to any early signs in children and families who may be at risk of radicalisation, on which we will act and document all concerns when reporting further.

Upon induction all staff are required to undertake online Prevent training through the government website.

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

Child trafficking and modern slavery is becoming a more frequent form of child abuse. Children are recruited, moved, transported and then exploited, forced to work or are sold on.

Modern slavery is a term that covers:

- Slavery
- Servitude and forced or compulsory labour
- Human trafficking.

Victims of modern slavery are also likely to be subjected to other types of abuse such as physical, sexual and emotional abuse. This policy should be used alongside the following policies to ensure all children, staff, parents and visitors are fully safeguarded:

- Safeguarding and child protection
- Whistleblowing
- Equality and inclusion

For an adult or child to have been a victim of human trafficking there must have been:

- *Action* (e.g. recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation)
- *Means* (threat or use of force, coercion, abduction, abuse of power or vulnerability) There does not need to be “means” for children as they are not able to give informed consent
- *Purpose* (e.g. sexual exploitation, forced labour or domestic servitude, slavery, financial exploitation, illegal adoption, removal of organs).

Procedure:

When a concern is raised about slavery or trafficking then we will follow our safeguarding procedure. If the child (or adult) is at risk of immediate harm then the police will be called, otherwise the local authority will be contacted and the referral process will be followed as per the safeguarding procedure.

Domestic Abuse, Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage

The UK’s cross-government definition of domestic abuse is:

“Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This abuse can encompass but is not limited to

- ✓ *psychological*
- ✓ *physical*
- ✓ *sexual*

- ✓ *financial*
- ✓ *emotional*

The Serious Crime Act 2015 section 76 created a new offence of “controlling or coercive behaviour in an intimate or family relationship”.

The Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 extended provisions to help stop domestic abuse and created the new offence of "causing or allowing the death of a child or vulnerable adult". This Act was amended in 2012 by the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims (Amendment) Act 2012 to include 'causing or allowing serious physical harm (equivalent to grievous bodily harm) to a child or vulnerable adult'.

Where domestic abuse is taking place in a child’s home the child is at risk of harm, whether they witness the violence or not. This may take the form of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse or neglect. At Dean Park Day Nursery we ensure that if there are any signs or symptoms that domestic abuse may be occurring we act without haste and follow our main safeguarding / child protection policy

Signs may include:

- Visible signs of injury on the adult being abused
- Changes in behaviour of the adult(s) and child – e.g. the abused adult may become withdrawn, show low levels of self-esteem
- One adult being visibly worried about what their partner may say in a certain situation (e.g. if the child has become dirty or injured at nursery)
- One adult becoming scared of their partner
- Adults becoming isolated from their friends or family
- Signs of abuse in the child (as per the main safeguarding policy).

As part of our duty to keep children safe we provide the following:

Support leaflets and numbers for females and males who may be experiencing domestic abuse

Honour based Violence

‘Honour’ based violence (HBV) is a type of domestic abuse which occurs in the name of so called ‘honour’. Some families believe that certain actions bring shame on the family and may react with punishment. This may be rejecting a forced marriage, having a relationship not approved by the family, wearing the wrong clothing or wearing makeup. This can happen in families from a variety of cultures and countries and also happens within the UK.

Signs of HBV may include changes in behaviour of the person undergoing the violence, changes in how they dress or act and also in comments they make.

If signs of HBV are present in a parent or staff member within the nursery then we will act and follow our safeguarding policy to keep children safe in the environment as well as seeking support for the adult involved.

Forced Marriage

We are aware arranged marriages are part of some cultural practices. We also recognise there is a clear distinction between a marriage in which the both parties are willing and able to give an informed consent to, and a marriage which is forced. Forced marriage is a criminal offence.

A forced marriage is a marriage in which one or both spouses do not and/or cannot consent to the marriage and duress is involved. If we become aware of a forced marriage occurring then we will report it to the appropriate body. If the person is under the age of 18 then we will report it to the children's social care team as this is a child protection issue. We will follow our safeguarding reporting procedure

Training

All members of staff and volunteers will have access to whole setting safeguarding training at least every three years in line with Pan Dorset Safeguarding Partnership guidance. 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.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead will undertake further safeguarding training, Pan Dorset Safeguarding Partnership Multi-Agency Working together 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 proprietor will have access to safeguarding training and will also undertake additional awareness training at least every three years. They will also 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 policy is reviewed at least 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.

Safer Recruitment

Dean Park Day Nursery Management and Admin staff have undertaken recruitment training and have policies and procedures in place to ensure safer recruitment practises are followed.

Mobile Phones and Cameras

Dean Park Day Nursery has policies and procedures in place with regard to the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting and on visits, an appendix to this policy.

Online Safety

Dean Park Day Nursery has policies and procedures in place with regard to Online Safety, an appendix to this policy.

Uncollected child

Dean Park Day Nursery has policies and procedures in place with regard to uncollected children, an appendix to this policy.

Staff supervision

Effective supervision plays an important role in the safeguarding of children. Supervision of staff will only be conducted by trained management staff and a supervision agreement will be put in place for each member of staff. Please see the separate supervision policy for more information.

Record keeping and information sharing

The nursery uses the approved nursery management system FAMILY for the recording and reporting of all incidents of concern and injuries within the provision. Any injury which occurs outside of the nursery environment and hours is also recorded using the report function on FAMILY. All parents and carers are assigned a log in to their Individual parental account where there will be able to view and acknowledge all Incident and Accident reports relating to their child.

If the nursery has any concern, if a disclosure is made, significant changes in behaviour are noticed or if there are concerns about a parent/carers behaviour, the nursery will use the incident of concern form (blank copies kept in nursery hallway) to record the incident as recommended by BCP. Parents and carers should be informed as soon as is practicable and asked to read, sign and date the form. If the nursery thinks that a child may come to harm by sharing the incident of concern with them, they must not share the form but follow the procedure of contacting CHILDREN'S FIRST RESPONSE MASH immediately, informing them that the parent/carer is not yet aware of the concern.

All records of concern must be completed promptly and subsequent discussions or meetings with staff, parents/carers must be recorded on a parent contact form (blank copies in office) and kept with the forms. Records must be made of any contact with outside agencies on the child's chronology and any actions or recommendations from such outside agencies must be actioned and recorded on the chronology (located in the child's secure file in office).

Safeguarding records must be kept securely and information must only be shared with staff who work directly with the child or who has DSL responsibilities.

Information sharing

In accordance with the Pan Dorset Safeguarding Partnership guidance, safer working practice guidance, information sharing guidance (2018) and EYFS, safeguarding concerns, records and chronology can be shared with agencies, such as social care if in the interest of the child. The nursery will always respond promptly to information requests with regards to social care, MARRAC requests and or any police request.

Legislation relating to this policy:

Children Act 1989, 2004

Education Act 1996, 2002, 2011

School Standards and Framework act 1998

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021

Every Child Matters 2003

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2021

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015

Manuals kept in setting:

What to do if you're worried a child is being abused 2015

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021

Information sharing guidance (2018)

Guidance for safer working practice for those working with children and young people in education settings (2022)

These documents are located electronically on the bookmarked webpage to .gov or hard copies are kept in the safeguarding policy file located in the office.

Glossary of Terms and Additional points

Section 17

Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 states that it is the general duty of every local authority to safeguard and promote the welfare of children within their area who are in need; and so far as it is consistent with that duty, to promote the upbringing of such children by their families.

Section 47

A Section 47 enquiry means that CSC must carry out an investigation when they have 'reasonable cause to suspect that a child who lives, or is found, in their area is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm'¹.

Some members of our communities hold beliefs that may be common within particular cultures but which are against the law of England. Dean Park Day Nursery does not condone practices that are illegal and which are harmful to children. Examples of particular practices are:

Child Exploitation and Online safety

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology. In order to minimize the risks to our children and young people Dean Park Day Nursery will ensure that we have in place appropriate measures such as security filtering, and an acceptable use policy linked to our online 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 Online 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

Dean Park Day Nursery does not support the idea of forcing someone to marry without their consent. Staff are aware if they become aware of a forced marriage situation to follow referral procedures to CHILDREN'S FIRST RESPONSE MASH.

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 her circumcised. If any of the above areas of concern is brought to the attention of Dean Park Day Nursery we will report those concerns to the appropriate agency in order to prevent this form of abuse taking place. (Follow CHILDREN'S FIRST RESPONSE MASH referral procedures as set out on safeguarding flowchart located across the building)

Ritualistic Abuse/witchcraft

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 every Child Matters outcomes as non-disabled children.

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*) Dean Park Day Nursery 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.

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 Dean Park Day Nursery, 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.

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 Dean Park Day Nursery will report those concerns to the 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 Dean Park Day Nursery is made aware of a child is suspected of or actually being trafficked/exploited we will report our concerns to the appropriate agency.

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 Dean Park Day Nursery, we will follow our safeguarding policy and report any suspected concerns regarding Domestic Abuse to the relevant 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.
- 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 Dean Park Day Nursery to inform the Local Authority where we are made aware of a child or young person who may be subject to private fostering arrangements.

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

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

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

Safeguarding is Everybody's Business. Safeguarding is a serious matter and if a setting/practitioner has any concerns or queries these can be talked through with the Bournemouth CHILDREN'S FIRST RESPONSE MASH team on 01202 458101.

Do not delay. Prompt action is essential to avoid any possibility of children been put at unnecessary further risk.

Contacts:

CHILDREN'S FIRST RESPONSE MASH Bournemouth (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)

During office hours (8.30am – 5.15pm, Mon –Thurs 8.30am – 4.45pm Fri)

Email: Jenny.Mason@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

Telephone: 01202 123334

Joint emergency HQ

Wimborne Road, Poole, BH15 2BP

Out of hours service: 01202 738256

For CHILDREN'S FIRST RESPONSE MASH details see posters displayed in office, staff room or in purple spotty folder (in the staff room)

Laura Baldwin (Named Senior Officer / Local Authority Designated Officer – (LADO)

must be informed of accusations made about staff:

Tel: 01202 446708

Training

Book a place at www.bcpworkforcedevelopment.co.uk/cpd/default.asp or Nexus for level 3 – see login details on office master sheet

Useful Links:

Pan Dorset Safeguarding Partnership for access to:

Multi Agency Safeguarding Procedures 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

<https://pdscp.co.uk/>

Keeping Children safe in Education 2021

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education>