



## Safeguarding Children Policy

Our responsibility as a childminder is to ensure the safety and welfare of all the children in our care in line with the procedures laid out by our local Safeguarding Childrens Board.

(The Safeguarding Children Board is responsible for producing Safeguarding Children Procedures based on national guidelines set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children (Dept. of Education & Skills). It monitors the effectiveness of the Procedures systematically and amends them as it becomes necessary.)

We have received training on Safeguarding Children (Child Protection) and we are aware of the signs and symptoms of child abuse, physical, emotional and sexual, and those of neglect.

If we have reason to believe that any child in our care is being abused in any way we will report the matter to the Duty Social Worker for Social Services, Child protection Team. Under these circumstances we will not be able to keep information relating to your child confidential, but will need to share it with Ofsted, Social Services and the Police if requested.

Please see our Allegations of Abuse Against a childminder Policy regarding how we protect ourselves allegations being made against our family and us.

As childminders we take lead responsibility for safeguarding children in the setting and are responsible for liaising with our local statutory children's services agency, and the LSCB.

As we work with an assistant we ensure that they are fully aware of my Safeguarding Children Policy and procedures, and ensure that they have up to date knowledge of safeguarding issues.

We also ensure they are fully aware of the signs of possible abuse and neglect and notice these at the earliest opportunity, and respond in a timely and appropriate way. These may include:

- Significant changes in children's behavior.
- Deterioration in children's general well being.
- Unexplained bruising, marks or signs of possible abuse or neglect.
- Children's comments, which give cause for concern.
- Any reasons to suspect neglect or abuse outside the setting, for example in the child's home



We will inform Ofsted of any allegations of serious harm or abuse by any person living, working, or looking after children at the premises (whether the allegations relate to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere). We will also notify Ofsted of the action taken in respect of the allegations.

These notifications will be made as soon as is reasonably practicable, but at the latest within 14 days of the allegations being made.

Whilst your child is in our care we will utilise digital cameras and mobile technology which includes, mobile phones, tablet devices and other forms of electronic storage, these devices will be used to store digital photographs and other electronic data, whilst using these devices within and outside of my setting we will follow these guidelines:

We will seek your permission to allow a camera, mobile phone or other digital device to take and store photographs for record keeping or display purposes.

- If using a camera, mobile phone or other digital device to take photographs of your child, the photographs will be uploaded to the Baby's Days system, used for daily diaries, observations, the photographs will then be removed from the devices.
- We will not distribute or publish any images of your child without your consent.
- We will always be able to justify to Ofsted the reason for taking the photographs.
- We will always ensure children are appropriately dressed.