



Safeguarding Policy

Purpose

To ensure that child safety and wellbeing remains central to all aspects of the Forest School's activities.

To ensure that all adults are aware of their fiduciary duties with regard to children and;

To ensure that the school meets the obligations expected of it under:

- The Children Act 1989;
- DfE guidance – Keeping children safe in education (2016)
- DfE guidance – working together to safeguard children (2015) and;
- DfE guidance – Prevent Duty Guidance (2015).

Why do we need a policy?

The safety and wellbeing of children is paramount and adults must be ever vigilant to ensure that all possible precautions are taken to ensure that children under their care do not suffer harm.

This duty extends to all staff and it is important that they are trained, informed and held to account with regard to their conduct and responsibilities under the relevant legislation.

The policy sets out steps to:

- Prevent children being put at risk and;
- Monitor their wellbeing so that any abuse or reasonable concerns about abuse can be addressed without delay

The policy encompasses, but is not confined to physical, sexual or emotional abuse as well as neglect by either an adult or a peer. It also relates to risk seeking behaviour by children which may cause them harm, including radicalisation.

This policy was implemented on **January 1st 2019**

The policy will be reviewed and updated in **January 2020**.

How will we promote child safeguarding?

The Forest School will:

- Appoint a designated safeguarding lead who will set school policy, train staff and respond to disclosures.
- Follow safer recruiting best practice guidance and ensure that all adults working with children:
 - Are registered for enhanced disclosure under the DBS update service;
 - Have received level 1 safeguarding training and;
 - Have been briefed on the school's policies and procedures in all aspects of child welfare.
- Ensure that standard procedures are in place to minimise risk to children;
- Take in to account the individual needs of children when briefing staff and planning activities to make sure that the child's needs are met.

Forest School staff will:

- Participate in safeguarding training as required;
- Follow the school procedures and policies at all times;
- Stay vigilant at all times and report any concerns promptly to the designated safeguarding lead.

Children will:

- Be briefed on their rights with regard to wellbeing and safeguarding;
- Be reminded, of their responsibilities to each other with regard to physical/emotional abuse or sexualised behaviour, whether direct or via electronic media;

Parents will:

- Alert the school to known safeguarding risks and work with the school to develop a response;
- Inform the school if they do not wish photographs of their child to be included in promotional literature or on the school website.

How will we implement this policy?

- Through training, procedures and information sharing as appropriate.