**Safeguarding Cheat Sheet**

**Safeguarding Definition:**

* Protect them from abuse, maltreatment and exploitation.
* Prevent anything from harming their health or development.
* Ensure they can grow up under safe and effective care.
* Take action to ensure they have the best outcomes in life.

Part of the safeguarding process is identifying and protecting children suffering from, or likely to suffer from, significant harm. The Childcare Act 2006 sets out the welfare requirements for the EYFS. *We have a duty to safeguard ALL children, and safeguarding is the responsibility of ALL staff (not just the DSL’s or management)*

**Child Protection –** Is a part of safeguarding but focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child. If a child is on a CP plan we will be given information from the Local Authority or Social workers with the specific information we need to know about this child in order to keep them safe. We currently (Feb 2021) have no children with a Child Protection plan and no children with a social worker.

**Abuse – SPEND**

Sexual Physical Emotional Neglect Domestic

*Possible signs:* significant changes in behaviour. Deterioration in children’s general wellbeing. Changes in a child’s mental health. Unexplained bruising marks or signs of possible abuse or neglect (no cruising no bruising). Children’s comments which give cause for concern. Any reason to suspect neglect or abuse such as FGM. Inappropriate behaviour by staff members or anyone working the children such as sexual comments, excessive 1:1 attention, inappropriate image sharing.

**Domestic Abuse** can be: physical, emotional, psychological, sexual and financial and can be men and women. Includes bullying, threatening behaviour , violent or controlling behaviour. Witnessing domestic abuse is child abuse. Signs include: physical injuries, feelings of guilt/anger/shame, bed wetting, eating problems, sleep problems, poor behaviour/tantrums.

*Perpertrators of domestic abuse can be: less* likely to be involved in childs day to day care, more angry with child, more irritable with child, more likely to be violet to the child

**Toxic Trio (abuse is more likely to happen if these 3 things are happening in the household**- Mental Health problems, Substance misuse (dependence or addiction to alcohol/drugs), Domestic Violence

**Whistleblowing** everyone has a duty to whistleblow if they are concerns about the wellbeing of a child relating to the ‘wrong-doing’ of a member of staff (your colleagues) or management team. This ‘wrong-doing’ could be illegal, or dangerous, not complying with policies, or anything which negatively affects the welfare of children. You must first whistleblow to the manager, followed by the directors (if about the management) and to the LADO if about the directors).

**Disclosures** – When a child tells you that something has happened to them. You must make notes using child’s own words, do not ask leading questions (such as did daddy do that?). Reassure and support the child without making any promises. You must inform them that you will have to share what they told you. Report to a DSL immediately.

**LADO- Local Authority Designated Officer.** Must report ANY allegations against staff members, and you can also whistleblow to the LADO. The phone number is in the office.

**First Response-** They are the people in Leicestershire that we must report any safeguarding concerns to in the first instance (any suspicion of neglect, physical or sexual abuse). The phone number is in the office and the call should ideally come from a DSL if possible but anyone can call. They also have a webpage whereby we can file safeguarding concerns for them to pass on to the relevant people. They have a 24/7 advice line. \*You do not need consent to refer if there is an allegation of abuse and by getting consent would put the child at further risk of harm\*

**Early Help-** There is a form on the Leicestershire gov page (same place as the first response) where anyone is able to apply for Early Help if they feel a family needs additional support. Early help and First response are part of the “multi agency” services, whereby any professional working with young people can report abuse or can also refer for early help. Early help could be when you see a family is starting to struggle and you feel that things will deteriorate without any intervention. \*Please note, you MUST have parental consent to make a referral for early help\*

**Reporting**. We must log any safeguarding concerns on the sheet in the safeguarding folder. We must log pre-existing injuries in the same folder. We must collaborate with other relevant people (GP, social worker, HV etc). We have a duty to work together (Childcare Act 2004) to help with early intervention.

**FGM (Gender/Honour based violence) –**

**FGM is** illegal in the UK even to travel abroad for it elsewhere and is a type of honour/gender based violence

Breast ironing – a type of honour based violence

Forced Marriage- a type of honour based violence/abuse

**Prevent/Radicalisation –** Law since 2015. To prevent children becoming radicalised as they are vulnerable. Necessary to prevent children and adults being drawn into terrorism.

Some terms: *Extremism:* is the vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values (democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs)

*Radicalisation:* is the process by which a person comes to support terrorist and extreme ideologies

*Terrorism*: the action which endangers or causes serious violence to a person or people, property or electronic system. Usually designed to influence the government or intimidate the public, for the purpose of advancing a political or religious or ideological cause.

**CSE/CCE (Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Criminal Exploitation)**- occurs when an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual or criminal activity. They may be given gifts, money or affection in return. May also be given drugs/alcohol and lulled into a false sense of being in a loving relationship. Often targeted through trafficking, gangs and online activity.

*Signs:* spending lots of time with older people, involved in petty crimes (shoplifting) involved with gangs, moving house a lot, unexplained absences from home, unexplained injuries.

**County Lines, gang activity –** A term used to describe gangs and criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into another area of the UK using mobile phone lines or other forms of deal lines. Children are used to move drugs and or money between locations. To make them comply they will use intimidation, violence, coercion and weapons.

**Technology**-

Grooming- Online grooming is when someone uses the internet to trick, force or pressure a young person into doing something sexual - like sending a naked video or image of themselves. ... Someone who's grooming others online will sometimes build their trust before talking about doing anything sexual.

Sexting- Sexting or sending nudes is when someone shares a sexual message, naked or semi-naked image, video or text message with another person. It doesn’t have to be a nude image of them and could be an image of someone else.  Some of the risks of sexting or sending and sharing nudes for children and young people are:

* losing control of the images, videos or messages and how they're shared. Once something's shared online it's public and can be saved or copied by others.
* blackmail, [bullying](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/) and harm. Young people can have their photos, messages or videos shared without their consent or be bullied about them. This can lead to them feeling difficult emotions like distress or embarrassment and shame.

Online porn- Children and young people who watch porn or sexually explicit content are at greater risk of developing:

* unrealistic attitudes about sex and consent
* more negative attitudes about roles and identities in relationships
* more casual attitudes about sex and sexual relationships and an increase in ‘risky’ sexual behaviour
* unrealistic expectations of body image and performance.

Online bullying -  “bullying that takes place using electronic technology such as mobile phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites”.

The UK Government defines bullying involving children as: “unwanted, aggressive behaviour among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Children who are bullied or who bully others may have serious, lasting problems”. Ofsted defines bullying as: “behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally”.

For the perpetrator, cyberbullying offers a far easier opportunity than bullying face to face. It allows them to hide online anonymously or behind avatars, sending emails, messages and posting on the victim’s media sites. With face to face bullying, the victim is not always accessible. However, the opportunity for the cyberbully is always present – 24/7 (highlighted in the case study below). Posts and messages can be distributed with ease to a wide audience. Tracing the source of the bullying can be difficult and social media platforms such as anonymous conversational apps, make it easier for bullies to hide and prosper.

Some signs that a young person is being bullied include:

* low self-esteem
* loss of friends, withdrawing from social situations
* refusal to talk about what is wrong
* changes in eating habits, eating disorders
* change in attitude or behaviour
* problems sleeping; frequent nightmares, bed wetting
* frequent headaches, stomach aches, feeling sick or feigning sickness
* behaviour problems at school, a decline in schoolwork and not wanting to go to school
* self-destructive behaviour, self-harm, suicidal behaviour

**Modern Slavery-** is the severe exploitation of other people for personal or commercial gain. **Modern slavery** is all around us, but often just out of sight. People can become entrapped making our clothes, serving our food, picking our crops, working in factories, or working in houses as cooks, cleaners or nannies.

**Fabricated illness-** when a parent makes up that a child is ill or has an illness, they may even give them drugs or change their diet to ‘cure’ the illness that they don’t have. This is a form of abuse.

**Disguised compliance-** When a parent appears to be complying with interventions – they turn up to appointments with key workers, they turn up to social care meetings, but behind the scenes make no changes. They ‘pretend’ they are complying and pretend they are making changes for the better of the child when in fact they are not.

**DSL- Designated Safeguarding Lead**

We currently have 4- Rachel, Charlotte, Queralt and Justyna, all have the Local Authority (Leicestershire) training certificate and the advanced safeguarding certificate from NoodleNow.

**Safeguarding Concerns Folder**

Ours is kept in the locked office in a locked cupboard. It contains any referrals for services, as well as all safeguarding concerns logged by practitioners and all pre-existing injuries and accidents. They are filed in alphabetical order by childs name, and there is an overview sheet to show any recurring patterns or injuries.

**How do we safeguard children at the bilingual day nursery?**

* Log any pre-existing injuries and accidents and log any patterns or recurrent injuries.
* Log any safeguarding concerns that any staff member has
* Log any disclosures made by children
* We have 4 DSLs who are trained in reporting safeguarding children to the Local authority if required
* All staff have safeguarding training
* All staff are able to spot signs of abuse and neglect
* All staff are trained in prevent, and able to spots signs of radicalisation
* We have frequent discussions about safeguarding in our team meetings to keep knowledge up to date
* We know our families well and know what is ‘normal’ behaviour for each child and parent
* We have strict permissions from parents about information sharing and sharing a child’s photo on social media for example
* We have lots of details about each child and their allergies and medical needs.
* We have strict permissions regarding who can collect children- and gather photos of new parents so we can be sure we are letting a child out with the right person
* We risk assess all areas to keep the environment safe
* We remove all broken and damaged toys
* We use age appropriate materials
* We have fire and lockdown procedures and practice them frequently to be able to evacuate all children safely should the need arise
* We work with families and social workers or outside agencies to share information when necessary and appropriate to keep a child safe.
* Safer recruitment procedures are followed, all staff members have at least 2 references before starting
* All staff have a DBS on the update service, and where appropriate an overseas criminal records check.
* All staff complete a disqualification form before starting and confirm monthly that they are suitable to work with children
* All staff complete a health declaration before starting and confirm monthly they are suitable to work with children.