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06 Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults'

policy Alongside associated procedures in 06.1-06.10 Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults, this policy was adopted by Daisy Chain Nursery and Preschool Ltd on 1st September 2026.

Daisy Chain is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young children and vulnerable adults. Staff are expected to promote a culture of safety by following our policy and procedures.

What is safeguarding and child protection?

Safeguarding is the steps we take to keep children, young people and adults safe on a day-to-day basis and the actions we take when we are worried about a person or the conduct of a colleague.

Child protection is the protection put in place for a child who is, or is likely to, suffer significant harm. Significant harm is defined in Section 47 of the Children Act.

Designated safeguarding lead is Natalie Taylor

Aim

As a member of the Early Years Alliance, we take account of the Early Years Alliance's 'four commitments' to provide a consistent and coherent strategy for safeguarding children young people and vulnerable adults.

Our 'four commitments' are broad statements against which policies and procedures across the setting are drawn to provide a consistent and coherent strategy for safeguarding children young people and vulnerable adults. The four key commitments are:

1. At Daisy Chain we are committed to empowering children, young people, and vulnerable adults, promoting their right to be '*strong, resilient, actively listened to, and heard*'.
2. The setting upholds a culture of safety in which children, young people and vulnerable adults are protected from abuse and harm in all areas of its curriculum and service delivery.
3. The setting is committed to preventing harm and responding promptly and appropriately to all incidents or concerns of abuse that may occur. Working with statutory agencies to achieve the best possible outcomes for every child.
4. The setting is dedicated to increasing safeguarding confidence, knowledge and good practice throughout its training and learning programmes for adults, advocating support and representation for those in greatest need.



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NB: A 'young person' is defined as 16–19-year-old. In an early years setting, they may be a student, apprentice educator, or parent/carer.

A 'vulnerable adult' (see guidance to the Care Act 2014) as: *'a person aged 18 years or over, who is in receipt of or may need community care services by reason of 'mental or other disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation'*. In early years, this person may be a service user, parent/carer of a service user, or a volunteer.

Key Commitment 1

- At Daisy Chain we actively listen to and observe babies and young children, promoting their right to be strong, resilient, listened to and heard.
- We use available curriculum materials for young children, taking account of information in the Early Years Foundation Stage, that enable children to be *strong, resilient, and actively listened to and heard*.
- All staff seek to build the emotional and social skills of children and young people who are service users in an age-appropriate way, including increasing their understanding of how to stay safe.
- We increase children's understanding of how to stay safe and support families to increase their knowledge by sharing information and resources
- We adhere to the EYFS Safeguarding and Welfare requirements.

Key Commitment 2

- All staff are trained in line with the Criteria set out in Annex C of the EYFS. Our training provider is Devon County Council.

Safeguarding training is refreshed annually and renewed every two years. The designated safeguarding lead ensures support, advice and guidance for all staff to meet their safeguarding responsibilities by:

- Regular supervision and 1:1 Team briefings, bulletins, group supervision, reviewing safeguarding procedures together
- We support all staff with advice and guidance by discussing safeguarding procedures and checking their understanding of them.
- We update all staff with information from the local authority LSPs, Ofsted, our/my child-minding agency pertaining to safeguarding matters, including new legislation and learning from recent safeguarding reviews



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- All staff have adequate information on issues affecting vulnerability in families such as social exclusion, domestic violence, mental illness, substance misuse and parental learning disability, together with training that takes account of factors that affect children that arise from inequalities of race, gender, disability, language, religion, sexual orientation, or culture.
- There are safer recruitment procedures in place to prevent known abusers from coming into the setting as employees or volunteers at any level. This includes obtaining and checking references and staff/volunteers receiving DBS clearance before commencing employment/ placement.
- Safeguarding is the responsibility of every person undertaking the work of the setting in any capacity.
- There are procedures for dealing with allegations of abuse against a member of staff, or any other person undertaking work whether paid or unpaid for the organisation, where there is an allegation of abuse or harm of a child.
- There are procedures in place for whistleblowing should a member of staff or volunteer have concerns about the settings practice.
- The setting ensures that all staff and volunteers understand the whistleblowing procedure.
- There are procedures in place for reporting abuse of children or a young person in the setting.
- There are procedures in place for reporting safeguarding concerns where a child may meet the s17 definition of a child in need (Children Act 1989) and/or where a child may be at risk of significant harm, and to enable staff to make decisions about appropriate referrals using local published threshold documents.
- There are procedures in place for reporting abuse of a vulnerable adult in the setting.
- There are procedures in place in relation to escalating concerns and professional challenge.
- These procedures take account of diversity and inclusion issues to promote equal treatment of children and their families and that take account of factors that affect children that arise from inequalities of race, gender, disability, language, religion, sexual orientation, or culture.
- There are procedures in place for record keeping, confidentiality and information sharing, which are in line with data protection requirements.
- We follow government and Local Safeguarding Partnership guidance in relation to extremism.
- The procedures of the Local Safeguarding Partnership must be followed.
- There is a robust Health and Safety Policy supported by clear procedures.



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Key Commitment 3

- At Daisy Chain we have a 'designated safeguarding lead person', who is responsible for carrying out child, young person, or adult protection procedures. *(It is recommended that this person is the setting manager.)*
- Our designated safeguarding lead is responsible for overseeing all child, young person or adult protection matters.
- The 'designated safeguarding lead' ensures they have links with statutory and voluntary organisations regarding safeguarding children.
- The 'designated safeguarding lead' ensures they have received appropriate training on child protection matters in line with Annex C of the EYFS which is renewed every two years, and that all staff are adequately informed and/or trained to recognise child abuse in the categories of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse and neglect.
- The 'designated safeguarding lead' ensures all staff are aware of the additional vulnerabilities that affect children that arising from inequalities of race, gender, disability, language, religion, sexual orientation, or culture and that these receive full consideration in child, young person, or adult protection related matters.
- The 'designated safeguarding lead ensures that staff are aware and receive training in social factors affecting children's vulnerability including, but not limited to:
 - social exclusion
 - domestic violence and controlling or coercive behaviour
 - mental illness
 - drug and alcohol abuse (substance misuse)
 - parental/carer learning disability
 - radicalisation
- The 'designated safeguarding lead' ensures that staff are aware and receive training in other ways that children may suffer significant harm and stay up to date with relevant contextual safeguarding matters:
 - abuse of disabled children
 - fabricated or induced illness
 - child abuse linked to spirit possession



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- sexually exploited children
- children who are trafficked and/or exploited
- female genital mutilation
- extra-familial abuse and threats
- children involved in violent offending, with gangs and county lines.

The 'designated safeguarding lead' ensures they are adequately informed in vulnerable adult protection matters.

- There are procedures in place for working in partnership with agencies involving a child, or young person or vulnerable adult, for whom there is a protection plan in place. These procedures also take account of working with families with a 'child in need' and with families in need of early help, who are affected by issues of vulnerability such as social exclusion, radicalisation, domestic violence, mental illness, substance misuse and parental learning disability.

Key commitment 4

- There are procedures in place to ensure staff are confident to recognise children and families who may benefit from early help and can respond using local early help processes. Designated safeguarding leads should ensure all staff understand how to identify and respond to families who may need early help.
- There are procedures in place for working in partnership with agencies involving a child, young person, or vulnerable adult. These procedures also take account of working with families with a 'child in need' and with families in need of early help.
- Staff are supported to make the right decisions that enable timely and appropriate action to be taken.
- Families are encouraged to raise concerns through a clear complaints policy and procedure.
- Safeguarding incidents are reviewed and reflected upon so that learning can be shared across the organisation.
- Designated safeguarding leads contribute towards local safeguarding arrangements to ensure that the views of the sector are heard at the highest level by:
 - Finding out how education and childcare are represented at a strategic level within their Local Safeguarding Partnership (LSP) structures.
 - Sharing their knowledge of the experiences of children in their cohort with LSP local leaders
- **Parental responsibility**



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- When a child or young person is registered, staff will ask who has parental responsibility for the child or young person. This is defined in the Children Act 1989 and defines who is responsible for the child or young person. If a person with parental responsibility is not to have contact with a child or young person this will be discussed and a risk assessment put in place.

Mobile phones, cameras and other electronic devices with imaging and sharing capabilities

Personal mobile phones and cameras, this also includes smart watches, and meta glasses are not to be used in the setting when children and young people are present. Parents / carers and visitors are asked to put all digital devices away on entering the setting. Staff are required to store all internet-enabled devices in a secure place designated by the manager and only access them in their personal time in areas of the nursery that are not available to children and when they are not caring for children and there are no children or young people present. Any electronic devices e.g. mobile phone which are used to manage individual or medical needs, medical evidence is required for an exemption, the manager will undertake a risk assessment and implement safeguarding measures.

Photographs and videos are only taken on the settings devices and stored safely in line with our Data Protection policy. Parents, carers and visitors are not allowed to take photographs or videos in a setting.

Close circuit television

We have chosen not to use CCTV within the setting. We believe that effective safeguarding is best achieved through robust recruitment practices, appropriate staff-to-child ratios, active supervision, regular training, strong leadership oversight, open communication with families, and an embedded safeguarding culture.

Unexplained absence

Families are asked to always contact the setting if their child is going to be absent. If a child or young person does not attend at the expected time and there is no explanation for the absence, the key person on the first day of absence will contact the parent/carer. Where no contact can be made with the parent / carer, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will make contact with the child's emergency contacts. Where no contact can be made or there is a safeguarding concern the Designated Safeguarding Lead will follow the Absence Policy and follow local authority safeguarding procedures.



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The Prevent Duty

All early years settings have a duty to identify vulnerable children and young people and prevent them being drawn into radicalisation and extremism as part of our overall safeguarding responsibilities. This is known as the Prevent duty. All staff are trained in the Prevent Duty. This training is renewed every two years as a minimum. A Prevent Duty Risk Assessment is in place and reviewed annually.

For very young children, the risk may be through their families and may be observed through conversation about extremist beliefs or behaviours. Children and young people may be at risk of radicalisation through online content. Online safety is a part of our curriculum and all devices that children and young people use have restricted access.

If a member of staff is concerned about a child, young person or their family they must speak to the DSL immediately. The DSL will report concerns to the Service Manager. Actions may include the prevent advice line being contacted and a report submitted through report extremism in education. Where there is a concern about a member of staff, the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) must be notified.

Information Sharing

When a parent / carer registers their child or young person with the setting, they are made aware of the Privacy Notice which explains the circumstances under which information about their child or young person will be shared with other agencies.

The consent of a parent / carer to share information with other professionals is always sought, unless doing so would put the child or young person at risk of significant harm. For concerns that do not meet this threshold, then consent must be obtained.

If a parent / carer refuses to consent for information to be shared, then the DSL must seek the advice of local children's safeguarding team without giving any personal details. If, by not accessing support, this puts the child or young person at risk of significant harm, then information must be shared with the children's safeguarding team without parental consent.

If a child protection referral has been made without the consent of the parents / carers, the DSL will seek the agreement of the children's safeguarding team to inform the parents / carers that the referral has been made and agree the information that will be shared.

Parents / Carers are not informed prior to making a referral if:



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- There is a possibility that a child or young person may be put at risk of harm by discussion with a parent / carer.
- If a serious offence may have been committed, it is important that any potential police investigation is not jeopardised.
- There are potential concerns about sexual abuse, fabricated illness, FGM or forced marriage
- Contacting the parent / carer puts another person at risk, for example where there is domestic abuse.

The decision not to inform a parent / carer before sharing information and the reason for not doing so must be recorded and agreed with the DSL

Safer sleep – please refer to procedure 9.10

Legal references

Primary legislation

Children Act 1989 – s 47 and s17

Protection of Children Act 1999

Care Act 2014

Children Act 2004 s11

Children and Social Work Act 2017

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015

General Data Protection Regulation 2018

Data Protection Act 2018

Modern Slavery Act 2015

Sexual Offences Act 2003

Serious Crime Act 2015

Criminal Justice and Court Services Act (2000)

Human Rights Act (1998)



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Equalities Act (2010)

Disability Discrimination Act (1995)

Data Protection Act (2018)

Freedom of Information Act (2000)

Legal references

Working Together to Safeguard Children (HMG 2026)

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2026)

What to Do if You are Worried a Child is Being Abused (HMG 2015)

Prevent duty guidance for England and Wales: guidance for specified authorities in England and Wales on the duty of schools and other providers in the Counterterrorism and Security Act 2015 to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism' (HMG 2015)

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026

Education Inspection Framework (Ofsted 2025)

Further guidance

Early Help Assessment / Family Help (2022)

Information sharing advice for safeguarding practitioners (DfE 2024)

Multi-Agency Statutory Guidance on Female Genital Mutilation (HMG. 2016)

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) (Ministry of Justice, National Offender Management Service and HM Prison Service 2014)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief>

<https://safeguarding-guide.nhs.uk/types-of-abuse-exploitation-and-neglect/s3-14/>

Safeguarding Disabled Children: Practice Guidance (DfE 2009)

Safeguarding Children who may have been Trafficked (DfE and Home Office 2011)

Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners (DfE 2017)

Handling Cases of Forced Marriage: Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines (HMG 2023)



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<https://help-for-early-years-providers.education.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/internet-safety>

Spotlight: Creating a culture of safeguarding (Early Years Alliance)

Developing an effective safeguarding culture in early years education (Early Years Alliance publication)

List of Safeguarding Children, Young People, and Vulnerable Adults specific policies:

06.0a	Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy Statement
06.01	Responding to Safeguarding or Child Protection Concerns
06.01.b	Safeguarding Incident Reporting Form
06.01c	Confidential Safeguarding Incident Report Form
06.02	Concerns Allegations of Serious Harm or Abuse Against Staff
06.03	Visitor or Intruder on the Premises
06.04	Uncollected Child
06.05	Missing Child
06.06	Impaired Capacity of a Parent
06.07	Death of a Child on Site
06.08	Looked After Children
06.08a	Care Plan for Looked After Children Form
06.09	E-Safety
06.09a	E-Safety Audit
06.10	Key Person Supervision
06.11	Absence Reporting Policy

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All policies available upon request. Please email info@daisychainhoniton.com or speak to any member of staff.