**Safeguarding Policy**

**Aim**

The aim of this policy is to ensure that all staff understand the importance of safeguarding all children within the Nursery environment. It is the responsibility of all staff to safeguard the children in our care. Safe guarding does not simply mean child protection, it is everything we do to protect children from meeting their basic needs, providing them with a safe and clean environment, ensuring we are following procedures and guidelines, meeting their medical needs, risk assessing their space.

**Safeguarding & Child Protection**

What is the difference?

Child Protection

Protecting a child from abuse or neglect. Abuse or neglect need not have taken place: it is sufficient for a risk assessment to have identified a likelihood or risk of significant harm from abuse or neglect.

Safeguarding

This is a much wider concept than child protection and refers to promoting the welfare of children.

Safeguarding sits within the context of the wider Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) approach, the Early Years Framework, and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

Examples of safeguarding-

* How pupils are taught to keep themselves safe.
* How well the school projects from bullying, racist abuse, harassment or discrimination and promotes good behaviour.
* How well the school meets the needs of a pupil with a medical condition- training for the likes of inhalers and epipens.
* Pupil Councils
* Parental views- surveys at parents’ evenings. Social media – survey monkey.
* Safeguarding in the curriculum- NSPCC Childline school service – Speak out, Stay Safe.

Our safeguarding policy applies to all teaching staff (including managers) non-teaching staff, students, volunteers (including parents/carers), sessional workers and any other adult working with or supporting the school.

The purpose of the policy is:

* To protect and ensure the safety and wellbeing of all the children in Stepps Primary School.
* To provide all staff and adults with the necessary information that guides our approach to safeguarding and child protection.

Stepps Primary School believes that children should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a shared responsibility to promote the welfare of all children to keep them safe. We are committed to teach and engage with young people in a way that keep them safe and protect them.

This policy has been written on the basis of law and guidance that seeks to protect children namely:

* Children (Scotland) Act 1995
* Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007
* Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007
* The Early Years Framework 2008
* Children’s Hearing (Scotland) Act 2011
* Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2007
* National guidance for Child Protection in Scotland May 2014
* NLC’s Child & Adult Protection Procedures and Guidance 2016
* Getting it Right for Every Child

The policy should be read in conjunction with our policies and procedures on:

* GTC Code of Conduct
* NLC’s Child Protection Guidelines
* Stepps Primary PPB Policy
* Promoting Positive Relationships Policy: Working Together to Eradicate Bulling Policy
* Health and Wellbeing Policy
* Additional Support for Learning Policy

In Stepps Primary School, we recognise that:

* All children regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion or sexuality have a right to equal protection from all types of harm and abuse.
* Some children are additionally vulnerable due to the impact pf previous or current experiences, additional support needs, communication needs or other issues.
* Working in partnership with children, parents/carers and other agencies is essential in promoting the welfare and wellbeing of all children.

We strive to keep our children safe by:

* Ensuring the vigilance of all staff in responding to or reporting welfare or child protection concerns by adhering to advice outlined in the NLC’s Child and Adult Protection Procedures and Guidance File & National Guidance for CP in Scotland 2014.
* Ensuring all concerns are reported to a member of the Senior Management Team and all concerns must be recorded on Notification of Concern Slips (copies of which are displayed in the staff room or see SMT).
* Ensuring that SMT follow advice outlined in the NLC’s Child & Adult Protection Procedures and Guidance File & National Guidance for CP in Scotland 2014.
* When children disclose information of a concerning nature, ensuring all staff treat issues sensitively and confidently and refrain from asking leading questions, valuing them and respecting them in line with our school’s vision, values and aims.
* Identifying a named Child Protection Coordinator within our school (Head Teacher).
* Adopting Child Protection and safeguarding practises through our procedures which are clearly understood by all staff and adults working with our children.
* Providing our children with regular opportunities to develop their understanding of safety issues in relation to the 8 wellbeing indicators including e-safety, anti-bulling and equality working with relevant agencies/organisations as appropriate.
* Teaching, encouraging and supporting our children to be confident individuals and equipping them with the skills and strategies to communicate effectively and seek help when needed.
* Tracking all pupils regularly and rigorously in line with GIRFEC policy to ensure that vulnerable pupils are identified and that the needs of pupils are met through effective support, including multi agency support where appropriate.
* Monitoring the training of staff in Child Protection procedures, particularly new staff.
* Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring that all necessary checks are made.
* Recording and storing information professionally and securely and sharing confidential information sensitively.
* Communicating with and sharing concerns and relevant information with agencies, involving parents/carers where appropriate.
* Developing positive and trusting relationships with children and their families where both feel listened to and respected.
* Ensuring that we have effective complaints procedures in place and that we respond to any concerns or complaints quickly and positively and that these and logged.
* Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, staff and visitors by applying health and safety measures in accordance with law and regulatory guidance.

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