



## Safeguarding Children Policy - Parent

### Policy Statement

Impstone & Cherry Trees Preschool is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and all staff, volunteers, and committee members must ensure that children are protected from harm.

We aim to create a safe, supportive environment where children feel secure, valued, and listened to.

The key commitments of the Preschool's policy for safeguarding children are:

1. Impstone & Cherry Trees Preschool are committed to building a 'culture of safety' in which children are protected from abuse and harm in all areas of its service delivery.
2. Impstone & Cherry Trees Preschool are committed to responding promptly and appropriately to all incidents or concerns of abuse that occur and to working with statutory agencies in accordance with Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership ("HSCP") guidelines as set down in "What to do if you're worried a child is being abused" (HMG 2015). We recognise this can take the form of physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect. It can also be drawing a child into extremism, radicalisation, terrorism or exploitation.
3. Impstone & Cherry Trees Preschool are committed to:
  - (a) promoting awareness of child abuse issues throughout its training and learning programmes for adults
  - (b) empowering young children, regardless of ability, promoting their right to be safe, resilient and listened to.

This policy complies with safeguarding requirements outlined by the Department for Education and the statutory safeguarding duties within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).



## Key Safeguarding Contacts

<u>Role / Organisation</u>	<u>Name / Contact Person</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Amanda Davies	impstonecherrytreespreschool@gmail.com	07733 898914
Deputy DSL	Sophie Pearce	sophieimpstoneandcherrytrees@gmail.com	—
Hampshire Children's Services	—	—	0300 555 1384
Ofsted	—	CIE@ofsted.gov.uk	0300 123 4666

Please contact your local council or call local police on 101 if you're worried about a child who is at risk of being harmed. If the child is in immediate danger, call police on 999.

## Aims and responsibilities

Our aims are to promote a child's right to be safe and listened to by:

- Creating an environment in our setting that encourages children to develop a positive self-image, which includes their heritage arising from their colour and ethnicity, their languages spoken at home, their religious beliefs, cultural tradition, home background or disability
- Encouraging children to develop a sense of autonomy and independence
- Enabling children to have the self-confidence and the vocabulary to resist inappropriate approaches
- Helping children to establish and sustain fulfilling relationships within their families, with peers, and with other adults
- Working with parents to build their understanding of and commitment to the principles of safeguarding all our children
- Treating all children and parents within the Preschool setting equally
- Promoting 'British Values', of which the main principles are democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect for and tolerance of, those with different faiths and beliefs, and for those without faith. We incorporate these into our daily practice

Safeguarding responsibilities include:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring children grow up in safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable children to have the best outcomes



## Types of Abuse and Signs

<u>Types of Abuse</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>Signs</u>
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	Deliberate act to cause harm, fear or trauma to another person	Unexplained injuries, bruises, burns, fear of certain people, flinching or withdrawal
<b>Emotional Abuse</b>	Controlling behaviour to make someone feel small, scared or guilty	Low self-esteem, anxiety, withdrawal, excessive fear of making mistakes, seeking constant reassurance
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	Forced, manipulated or tricked into taking part in sexual activity	Age-inappropriate sexual behaviour, fear of certain individuals, physical discomfort, secrecy or sudden behavioural changes
<b>Neglect</b>	Ongoing failure to meet a child's basic, physical and/or psychological needs	Poor hygiene, hunger, untreated medical issues, inappropriate clothing, frequent absence from school
<b>Domestic Abuse</b>	Patterns of controlling and violent behaviour by a partner, ex-partner, family member or carer	Isolation, fearfulness, controlling relationships, injuries, limited access to money or communication



The legal framework we follow is: -

<u>Legislation / Act</u>	<u>Details</u>
The Children Act 1989 (s47, s17)	Key legislation relating to child protection and safeguarding responsibilities.
Data Protection Act 2018	Governs how personal data is collected, stored, and shared.
The Children Act 2004	Strengthens safeguarding duties and promotes cooperation between agencies.
Children and Social Work Act 2017	Covers corporate parenting and safeguarding reforms.
Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006	Establishes the vetting and barring scheme to protect vulnerable groups.
Education Act 2011	Includes provisions related to school discipline and safeguarding.
Childcare Act 2004	Provides the framework for early years services and safeguarding.
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Act 2003	Makes FGM a criminal offence and outlines safeguarding duties.
Sexual Offences Act 2003	Defines sexual offences and protections for children and vulnerable individuals.
Human Rights Act 1998	Protects fundamental rights and freedoms.
Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000	Addresses discrimination and promotes equality.
Equalities Act 2010	Consolidates anti-discrimination laws.
Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974	Governs how past convictions are considered in employment.



## Guidance

- What to do if you are worried a child is being abused 2015 'Advice for Practitioners'
- Working together to safeguard children 2026
- EYFS Framework 2024
- Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024
- Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, Southampton (HIPS), safeguarding children procedure manual [www.hipsprocedures.org.uk](http://www.hipsprocedures.org.uk)
- Prevent Duty guidance 2023
- Statutory guidance 'arrangements to safeguard and promote welfare' Section 11 of the Children Act 2004
- Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers 2018
- Disclosure and Barring Service [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service)
- Hampshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership (HSCP) [www.hampshirescp.org.uk](http://www.hampshirescp.org.uk)
- Munro review of Child Protection 2011 Final report 'A Child Centred System'

### Additional Useful Telephone Contacts

Hampshire Police - in an emergency dial 999	101
ChildLine - <a href="http://www.childline.org.uk">www.childline.org.uk</a>	0800 1111 0300 123 4666 (concerns)
NSPCC	0808 800 5000
National Domestic Abuse Helpline	0808 2000 247
For further information on all services for children, young people and their families in Hampshire please see the Family Information and Services Hub: <a href="https://fish.hants.gov.uk">https://fish.hants.gov.uk</a>	