Safeguarding

E-Safety, Mobile Phones and Photographic Equipment Policy

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage Quote Reference: 3.4

Providers must be alert to any issues for concern in the child's life at home or elsewhere.

The Safeguarding policy and procedures must cover the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting.

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this policy is to safeguard children accessing Family Centre services/activities, in relation to e-safety, use of mobile phones and photographic equipment. Potential risks to those accessing the internet, using mobile phones and photographic equipment include: -

- Exposure to inappropriate content, images and language;
- Making, taking and distribution of indecent images and texts (sexting);
- Online bullying;
- Grooming;
- Sexual and emotional abuse:
- Pressure from media and targeted advertising;
- Social pressure to maintain online networks via texting and social networking sites;
- Terrorist and extremist material Prevent Duty 2015 (p.g.8)

It is important that children in their early years have safe and secure access to the most appropriate technologies in order to support and enhance their learning and development.

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We aim to:

- Provide safe access to I.T equipment including use of the internet
- Ensure all visitors to, and users of, the Family Centre only use their phones where children are not present.
- Ensure all staff use mobile phones, cameras and I.T. equipment appropriately within Family Centres.
- Ensure children do not bring I.T. equipment with camera or internet capabilities in to the Centre.
- Teach children to keep themselves safe on line and when using a mobile phone.

What parents\carers should do

- Be aware that the use of mobile phones and photographic equipment in areas where children are present is strictly prohibited.
- Recognise and be aware of the risks associated with e-safety, use of mobile phones and photographic equipment where children are present.
- Encourage emergency contact with you via the Family Centre main telephone number whilst attending Centre services/activities.
- Report any concerns in respect of e-safety, use of mobile phones and photographic equipment to the Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately.
- Do not allow children to bring I.T. equipment with camera or internet capabilities to the Centre.
- Discuss any concerns you have regarding the bullying, grooming, exploitation or radicalisation of children and young people to a staff member and they will support to make a referral if appropriate.

What the Family Centre will do

 Ensure staff, volunteers and students store their personal mobile phones in their personal lockers or agreed designated areas, where children are not present.

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- Ensure all staff take responsibility for e-safety, use of mobile phones and photographic equipment.
- Ensure the Designated Safeguarding Lead takes responsibility for the dissemination of information and training to staff, volunteers, students and parents/carers.
- Ensure the Centre IT equipment and software is maintained and protected appropriately according to it's use through BMBC IT Services.
- Ensure staff, volunteers, and students can recognise and are aware of the risks associated with e-safety, use of mobile phones and photographic equipment.
- Challenge staff, volunteers, students, parents/carers, visitors, users, children and contractors on the use of IT equipment, mobile phones and photographic equipment where necessary.
- Staff will report any concerns regarding the inappropriate use of computers, mobile phones and or photographic equipment to the Designated Safeguarding Lead immediately.
- Where inappropriate use of IT equipment, mobile phones and photographic equipment occurs, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will determine the most appropriate course of action in line with the Family Centre policies and procedures and BMBC policies and procedures.
- Should allegations relate to abuse or unlawful activity, the Designated Safeguarding Lead will notify Social Care, the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), Ofsted and/or the Police.
- Promote e-safety within Centre services/activities and in the home environment.
- Ensure that when children access the internet for research, they are accompanied at all times by a member of staff.
- Ensure staff, volunteers and students do not use their personal mobile phones or photographic equipment whilst undertaking nursery outings.
- Provide staff with designated mobile phones for use on nursery outings.

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- Ensure staff, volunteers and students use appropriate language to support children in increasing their knowledge and understanding of internet safety.
- Ensure all resources used on computer systems and mobile devices including software, will be checked by a member of staff, prior to children using the resource in order to ensure it is age appropriate and that the resources are from a trusted source.
- Ensure all staff access Prevent Training and British Values Training so they are aware of how to spot the signs of radicalisation and extremism.

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