



# **Busy Bees Playgroup**

## **Child Protection Policy**

*(Cross referenced to Committee Policy, Key Person and Partnership with Parents/Carers Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality of Opportunities and Diversity Policy, SEND Policy, Children in Care and Looked After Children Policy, Safe Recruitment Policy, Staff Behaviour Policy, Staff Supervision Policy, Learning and Development, Confidentiality Policy, and Uncollected Child Policy)*

At Busy Bees Playgroup, we are aware children learn best when they are healthy, safe, and secure, when their individual needs are met and when they have positive relationships with the adults caring for them. We provide high quality and stimulating care, where children can enjoy learning and grow in confidence. We take all necessary steps to keep the children in our care safe and well and have regard to the Government's statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children: [Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children) ([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))

**Hailie Sturt** is the **Designated Safeguarding Leader (DSL)** and has received full training for this role. **Jess Byan** is the **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL)** and have also attended appropriate training. We ensure that either a DSL or DDSL is available or contactable always that the playgroup is open. Busy Bees Playgroup fully recognises its responsibilities for safeguarding children (Child protection). Our policy applies to all staff, Committee members and volunteers working in the playgroup.

- The 'designated person' and the 'designated officer' ensure that staff are aware and receive training in social factors affecting children's vulnerability including.
  - social exclusion
  - domestic violence and controlling or coercive behaviour.
  - mental illness
  - drug and alcohol abuse (substance misuse)
  - parental learning disability
  - radicalisation

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- The 'designated person' and the 'designated officer' ensure 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.
  - 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 person' and the 'designated officer' ensure they are adequately informed in vulnerable adult protection matters.
- The designated person informs the designated officer about serious concerns as soon as they arise and agree the action to be taken, seeking further clarification if there are any doubts that the issue is safeguarding.

A full audit from GCC to support our Child Protection policy and procedures is carried out each June and an action plan developed, to ensure our policies and practice fully meet the requirements of the DSL Handbook [Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership \(GSCP\) - Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership](#) and the Early Years Foundation Stage Guidance [New EYFS framework published - Foundation Years](#). Staff are all kept informed of updates to KCSIE 22/23 [Keeping children safe in education 2023 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

Busy Bees playgroup is registered with GSCB and ensure that we keep up to date with changes in procedures by disseminating alerts to the entire staff team as soon as we are notified from GSCP.

### There are five main elements to our policy:

1. Ensuring we practice Safe Recruitment in line with Government guidance: by using at least one accredited recruiter the Manager and DSL **Hailie Sturt** on all interview panels; by checking the suitability of staff and volunteers to work with children and by ensuring any unsuitable behaviour is reported and managed using the allegations

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management procedures. (Hailie Sturt has completed the Safe Recruitment accreditation training). The safe recruitment training should be completed every 5 years.

2. Raising awareness of Child Protection issues and equipping children with the skills needed to keep them safe.
3. Developing and then implementing procedures for identifying and reporting cases, or suspected cases, of abuse by referring to the Children's Services Front Door.
4. Supporting children who have been abused in accordance with his/her agreed child protection plan.
5. Establishing a safe environment in which children can learn and develop.

We recognise that because of the day-to-day contact with children, playgroup staff are well placed to observe the signs of abuse. Busy Bees Playgroup will therefore include opportunities to enable children to develop the skills they need to recognise and stay safe from abuse. Through play-based activities, children are encouraged to talk about feelings to deal assertively with pressures, are listened to, and know whom they can turn to for help and advice. We will identify children who are more vulnerable (e.g. who have a parent in prison, drug using parents, domestic abuse in the home, have SEND, medical needs, are on a Child protection plan or child in need plan, have Child Protection concerns raised about them, or are Children in Care/Looked after Children, are children at risk of child sexual exploitation of female genital mutilation), and ensure they are listened to and their views expressed and supported. Children with medical needs have their Health Care plan updated regularly to ensure their safety.

We will follow the procedures set out by the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board (GSCB) and take account of guidance issued by the Department for Education to:

- Ensure we have a designated DSL and a DDSL, who have received appropriate training and support for this role. A Safeguarding leadership course and multi-agency training is completed every 2 years. We ensure every staff member (including temporary and supply staff and volunteers), and Committee members know the name of the DSL responsible for Child Protection and their role.
- Ensure a copy of the procedures to follow, should abuse be suspected, is displayed in the office, ensuring that all staff members are aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse, who and how to report the suspicions. It is also included as part of the induction programme for new staff and volunteers.
- Ensure a DSL or DDSL is available or contactable always when Busy Bees playgroup is open.
- Ensure all staff and volunteers receive Child Protection training at least every three years. This will be in the form of a formal 2-hour course, (see GSCB for details). The Manager (DSL) and Group Leaders (Deputy DSL) will receive multi agency training every 2 years. To arrange formal training call [01452 426994](tel:01452426994).
- Hold a full team in-service training session each June following our Annual Child Protection audit, to ensure that all staff are fully aware of our Child Protection procedures and devise an action plan.

- Appoint a designated member of the Committee to champion Child Protection issues and challenge the setting. The Committee member will complete relevant Child Protection training. Charlotte Mills will be the Designated Committee member – contact Charlotte on 07503390045.
- Ensure all staff and volunteers understand their responsibilities in being alert to the signs of abuse and responsibility for referring any concerns to the DSL/Deputy DSL responsible for Child Protection and KCSIE 2022/23
- Ensure that parents/carers understand the responsibilities placed on Busy Bees Playgroup and the staff for Child Protection.
- Notify the relevant social worker if there is an unexplained absence of more than two sessions of a child who has a Child Protection Plan (previously known as a child protection register).
- Develop effective links with relevant agencies and co-operate as required with their enquiries regarding Child Protection matters including attendance at safeguarding conferences and core groups.
- Keep written records of concerns about children, even when there is no need to refer the matter immediately and ensure that all concerns have the actions/outcomes recorded.
- Ensure all records are kept securely; separate from the main pupil file, and in locked locations. (Stored securely and confidentially in the filing cabinet).
- Follow procedures where an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer, including supply staff, contractors or Committee members.
- Ensure safe recruitment practices are always followed.
- Ensure all staff, volunteers and Trustees of the Committee have read part 1 of Keeping children safe in education [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education)

### **Resolution of professional difficulties - Escalation policy**

The resolution of professional difficulties (escalation) procedures must be followed if we are left feeling that the response from social care has not addressed our concerns for the child. Advice about procedural issues including using the resolving professional differences procedures can be obtained through the Safeguarding Children Service on 01452 583629. For out of hours social work advice please contact the Emergency duty team on 01452 614194. If the DSL has made a referral to children's services and is not confident that the referral has been acted on appropriately and still has concerns about a child's welfare, we will follow the Escalation Policy when necessary. Likewise, if a member of staff has reported concerns to the DSL and feels the concerns have not been dealt with appropriately, they must also follow the Escalation Policy, and report their concerns to children's services themselves.

### **Support**

We recognise that children who are abused or witness violence may find it difficult to develop a sense of worth. They may feel helplessness, humiliation and some sense of blame. Busy Bees Playgroup may be the only stable, secure and predictable element in the lives of children at risk. When at playgroup their behaviour may be challenging and defiant or they

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may be withdrawn. They may also project their experiences onto other children (peer to peer abuse). Busy Bees Playgroup will endeavour to support the child in the following ways:

- Through planned activities (i.e., using persona dolls, talking about feelings, teaching children how to be kind to others).
- The playgroup ethos, which promotes a positive, supportive and secure environment and gives children a sense of being valued.
- Our behaviour policy is aimed at supporting vulnerable children in the playgroup. Busy Bees Playgroup will ensure that the child knows that some behaviour is unacceptable, but they are valued and not to be blamed for any abuse that has occurred. We will be alert to the possibility of peer-to-peer abuse and will deal with any concerns appropriately in line with our behaviour and bullying policy.
- Liaison with other agencies that support the child such as social care, Child and Adult mental health Service, education welfare service and educational psychology service.
- We will pass on any Child Protection records to other settings when required.
- Ensuring that where a child who has a Child Protection Plan leaves, their information is transferred to the new pre-school setting or school immediately and that the child's Social Worker is informed.

### **Child Protection Procedures:**

Staff must be vigilant always and the safety and protection of all children is of paramount importance. Busy Bees staff need to be open to the possibility of non-accidental injury and alert to the potential signs and indicators of physical, sexual and emotional abuse and neglect. Staff will be aware of: bruising (or bruising in unusual positions), finger and thumb marks, burns and scalds, bite marks, deep scratches, frequent fractures, recurrent injuries, inconsistent or no explanations, signs of female genital mutilation, sudden changes in behaviour or withdrawal, child, parent, witness reports, neglect, emotional and verbal mistreatment.

If any concerns are raised the staff will meet and discuss them. Staff will use the Continuum of need windscreen to help guide the level of intervention needed. If the concerns are serious the DSL (Hailie) will, in most cases, speak to the parent /carer and it will be reported to Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board and OFSTED if required. However, if serious physical or sexual abuse by the parent/carers is suspected then it will be reported straight to GSCB. It is our responsibility to report concerns, not to decide whether it is or is not child abuse. We will set aside concerns about making false allegations, as the need to protect children must be paramount. If the concern is of a serious nature or a child is at immediate risk of significant harm it will be reported to the Children's services Front door - **01452 426565** option 1 (8am – 5pm,) or the Emergency Duty team – **01452 614914**(5pm-8am). For all other referrals we will use the children's services Front Door Liquid Logic Children's portal <https://children.gloucestershire.gov.uk> to raise concerns about a child and complete a MARF (multi agency referral form). Guidance on using the portal is available on the GSCB website [Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership \(GSCP\) - Gloucestershire Safeguarding](#)

[Children Partnership](#). We are also able to speak to a qualified social worker for advice on **01452 426565** (option 3).

### **Responding to marks or injuries observed**

Parents/carers are asked to inform us of any accidents or injuries that have occurred outside of playgroup, which are recorded on a pre-existing injuries form. Pre-existing injury records are checked and analysed to see if children are at higher risk of sustaining injuries at home, and if these injuries alert us to Child Protection concerns. It also reassures staff that the child didn't hurt themselves at playgroup.

### **Accident or incident at home Procedure**

- If a member of staff observes or is informed by a parent/carer of a mark or injury to a child that happened at home or elsewhere, the member of staff makes a record of the information given to them by the parent/carer in the child's personal file, which is signed by the parent/carer. The forms are kept in a file by the door, parents are asked to complete.
- The member of staff advises the designated person as soon as possible if there are safeguarding concerns about the circumstance of the injury.
- If there are concerns about the circumstances or explanation given, by the parent/carer and/or child, the designated person decides the course of action to be taken after reviewing Child welfare and protection summary and completing a Safeguarding incident reporting form.
- If the mark or injury is noticed later in the day and the parent is not present, this is raised with the designated person.
- If there are concerns about the nature of the injury, and it is unlikely to have occurred at the setting, the designated person decides the course of action required and Safeguarding incident reporting form is completed as above, taking into consideration any explanation given by the child.
- If there is a likelihood that the injury is recent and occurred at the setting, this is raised with the designated person.
- If there is no cause for further concern, a record is made in the Accident Record, with a note that the circumstances of the injury are not known.

- If the injury is unlikely to have occurred at the setting, this is raised with the designated person
- The parent/carer is advised at the earliest opportunity.
- If the parent believes that the injury was caused at the setting this is still recorded in the Accident Record and an accurate record made of the discussion is made on the child's personal file.

Parents/carers are asked to inform us of any accidents or injuries that have occurred outside of playgroup, which are recorded on a pre-existing injuries form. Pre-existing injury records are checked and analysed to see if children are at higher risk of sustaining injuries at home, and if these injuries alert us to Child Protection concerns. It also reassures staff that the child didn't hurt themselves at playgroup.

Attendance at Busy Bees Playgroup is not mandatory. However, we require parents/carers to inform us by telephone or email by 9.30am if their child is going to be absent with the reason for absence. This enables us to be alert to patterns of non-attendance, coupled with illness or reticence to share information or delay tactics used by parents/carers that may indicate a Child Protection concern. In all such instances we follow the appropriate Child Protection procedures. The DSL/Deputy DSL will follow up non-attendance when parents have failed to notify that their child will not be attending Busy Bees for more than 2 days. We also record on our daily register a code number to inform staff or future records why that child is not in that day for example: 1 – Holiday, 2 – Illness, 3 – other and 4 – No contact.

If a staff member is told something by a child, they should report it immediately to the DSL/Deputy DSL, and then complete a child protection log report stating the facts of what was said or seen. Child Protection Log report sheets are stored confidentially in the child protection file. All records should be typed, dated, signed and stored confidentially in chronological order (following GDPR). If a staff member feels that their concerns are not being dealt with appropriately, they have a duty of care to follow the escalation policy or make a referral to social care in their own right. We will notify Ofsted and GSCB of any Serious accidents, injuries and deaths to a child in our care – Contact 0300 123 1231 [Childcare: reporting children's accidents and injuries - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/61762/Childcare-reporting-childrens-accidents-and-injuries-GOV.UK-2015-05-20.pdf) Ofsted reference no: 101780

If concerns are raised the DSL (Hailie) will talk to the parents/carers and see if any Early Help for the family can be arranged. The Local Authority, together with partners across Education, Health, Care, Police, Housing and the Voluntary & Community sectors work together to offer support and advice and empower families through early prevention work. Identifying children and family's needs at the earliest opportunity and working with a multi-agency approach to identify and address these needs can reduce issues from escalating and becoming very

serious. We will consider where and how we can provide parents/carers with information or help. This may be for guidance on parenting, language development, dietary advice, money management, toileting etc. Families can be sign posted to for Early Help by going to The Families Information Service:

<http://www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk/kb5/gloucs/glosfamilies/home.page>

email: [gloucesterearlyhelp@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:gloucesterearlyhelp@gloucestershire.gov.uk) Tel: 01452 328076

When required, staff will be involved in case conferences, and we will do what we can to support the family and to help them stay together. The DSL can contact outside agencies such as Health Visitors, who may be able to help the parents. We will also contact other settings who care for the child to see if they have any concerns. If it becomes necessary, the written evidence will be shared with outside agencies. We will pass on any child protection records to other settings the child attends or when a child leaves to go to another setting or starts school. If Busy Bees staff become aware that a child is witnessing domestic abuse, we will follow our Child Protection procedures. The definition of harm (Children Act 1989) was amended by the Adoption and Children Act 2002 to include impairment suffered from seeing or hearing the ill treatment of another. Domestic Abuse falls into this category. Domestic Abuse Referral Process (DARP) will provide a multi-agency response to referrals of domestic abuse where children are involved, and to offer early intervention and support to the victims and children. For more information on the process please contact [Home | Gloucestershire Constabulary](#)

### **Honour based violence (HBV)**

Is a collection of practices used to control behaviour within families to protect perceived cultural or religious beliefs and honour. Violence can occur when offenders perceive that a relative has shamed the family or community by breaking their 'code of honour'. Honour based violence cuts across all culture and communities: Turkish, Kurdish, Afghani, South Asian, African, Middle Eastern, South and Eastern European for example. Where a culture is heavily male dominated HBV may exist. If HBV is suspected, we will complete a risk assessment and monitoring form via the GSCB website.

Forced marriage (FM) is where one or both people do not, or in cases of people with learning disabilities, cannot, consent to the marriage and pressure or abuse is used. It is recognized as a form of violence against women and men, domestic/child abuse and a serious abuse of human rights.

### **Female Genital mutilation (FGM)**

Is the partial or complete removal or modification of the female genitalia for cultural or religious reasons. It is illegal to practice FGM in the UK and it is illegal to remove a child from the UK for this procedure. Some signs to be aware of that a child is at risk of FGM are talking about a planned journey/becoming a woman, or a planned extended holiday abroad. It is important to listen to the voice of a child to identify FGM. We will report any concerns before the child leaves the UK and we will follow the same procedure for 'where abuse is suspected'



if we feel a child is at risk. If we have any questions in relation to this procedure, we will contact [Home | Gloucestershire Constabulary](#). Staff can receive free training FGM by visiting [www.fgmlearning.co.uk](http://www.fgmlearning.co.uk) Child Sexual Exploitation CSE) - is a type of sexual abuse in which children are sexually exploited for money, power or status. For more information, please see the Warning signs and vulnerabilities checklist in the child protection file. If Busy Bees staff have concerns that a child is being sexually exploited, they can access a screening tool through GSCB, which will help assess the level of risk to the child, and then follow the recommendations given by the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

### Prevent Duty

Subject to the duty under section 26 of the Counter terrorism and security act 2015, Busy Bees staff will have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. Busy Bees staff have received training to help to identify children and families who may be vulnerable to radicalisation. If we suspect that a child or family is at risk of radicalisation or is displaying extremist views or behaviour, we will make a referral to Children's social care ([01452 426565](tel:01452426565)), or to the Channel Police Practitioner on 101, or alternatively call the Anti-Terrorist hotline on 0800789321. Busy Bees actively promote the Fundamental British values as part of our teaching and learning programme.

### IT and E-Safety

Photographs of the children will be taken to assist observations or record activities, following parental permission. We do not store photographic images of the children. All images are printed on the Playgroup printer and after printing the images are deleted from the memory card. Staff are not permitted to take photographs of children using their mobile telephones. All staff members are required to keep their mobile telephones in their bag, in a cupboard during the Playgroup session with Bluetooth setting disabled.

Confidential/personal information must only be sent using secure email via the Busy Bees Playgroup email account, or Egress and not personal accounts from home. All staff members are asked to follow the guidelines for social media and network sites as stated in our 'Staff Behaviour' Policy. Connection to the Internet on the SMART board is restricted by security filters, ensuring that any inappropriate sites cannot be accessed by the children. Separate permission is sought by parents/carers for photographs of children to appear on our website.

Allegations against Busy Bees staff – including supply or agency workers, contractors, Committee members or volunteers: Protecting Staff: From time to time, playgroup staff and volunteers are vulnerable to allegations of child abuse. Therefore, we will keep records of accidents and pre-existing injuries, which parents/carers will be required to sign to show that they accept what has happened or what Busy Bees staff have noticed. All staff members, volunteers, and visitors (when applicable) are provided with a copy of the Child Protection

policy and Safer Working Practices document, as part of the induction package, which they are required to sign to confirm they have read and understood. Busy Bees staff will endeavour to always work with supervision, avoiding being left alone in a room or outside with children whenever possible. If a child needs intimate physical care (i.e., nappy changing, applying creams to genitals etc.), staff will always inform another staff member and may ask for supervision. We will protect the children in our care from abuse by ensuring that they are not left alone with adults who have not been vetted and will ensure that all staff, volunteers, and Committee members receive a relevant Disclosure and Barring service/CRB check. We have a visitor's book, which all visitors to the setting are required to sign, stating their arrival and departure time and reason for visit. All visitors are vetted by staff, and are required to provide ID.

### **Allegations Procedures**

Busy Bees Playgroup has a 'whistle blowing' policy, whereby all staff members must report any concerns to either the Manager or Chairperson, about a fellow staff member's conduct or behaviour that may have adverse effects on the children in our care or Busy Bees reputation. We will inform OFSTED of any allegations of serious harm or abuse by any person living, working, or looking after children at the premises within 14 days of the allegation being made.

Procedures for dealing with allegations against any staff working/volunteering with children are laid out in the Gloucestershire Child Protection Procedures, which may be found at Gloucestershire Local Authority has a Designated Officer (LADO), who must be notified of any allegations of abuse against any person living, working, or looking after children at the premises (whether the allegations relate to harm or abuse committed on the premises or elsewhere) without delay. It is important that no investigation is carried out without first having a discussion with the Local Authority Designated Officer.

If an allegation of abuse is made against a member of staff, the Government's Allegations Management Procedures must be implemented. The DSL (Hailie Sturt) should immediately contact the most senior person not implicated in the allegation, this is usually the Committee Child Protection Champion or Chairperson, who must in turn contact the Local Authority Designated Officer for Allegations (LADO) on [01452 426994](tel:01452426994) or [01452 583638](tel:01452583638) for an Initial Discussion.

If necessary, the Manager and Chairperson, Local Authority Designated Officer, Social Worker representatives of the Safeguarding Children Service, Busy Bees Committee and Police will then convene a multi-agency Allegations Management Meeting urgently to plan any further appropriate action. Busy Bees should not carry out an investigation until this meeting has taken place in case the allegation meets the criminal threshold.

The Committee Child Protection Champion or the Chair of the Committee may be required to act should an allegation be made against the Manager. In these circumstances, it is likely that the Committee member will be required to attend a Professionals' Multi-Agency Allegations Management Meeting with representatives from the LA, Police Child Abuse Investigation Team, Safeguarding Children Service and Committee members to decide on the

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way forward. Committee members might also be required to provide details of the alleged incident and to make further enquiries, if necessary, as decided by the Police depending on whether Child Protection action and/or Disciplinary Action is necessary.

Contact details:

Gloucestershire Children and Young Person's Directorate (social care) to make a referral: **01452 426565** Local Authority Designated Officer for Allegations (LADO) on **01452 426994** or **01452 583638** OFSTED whistling blowing hotline: **0300 123 3155** (Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 6.00pm) or Email [whistleblowing@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:whistleblowing@ofsted.gov.uk) OFSTED: **0300 123 1231**

### **Parental Responsibility**

As part of the admissions process, parents/carers are asked to inform us who has parental responsibility for their child. If the parents were married to each other at the time of the child's birth or both parents are named on the birth certificate, both have Parental Responsibility enabling equal input on all issues. Therefore, any decision taken in respect of a child must be taken as a joint decision. Unmarried fathers, whose name does not appear on the child's birth certificate, currently do not have Parental Responsibility unless the father has made a successful application to the court for a Parental Responsibility order, or he and the mother have entered into a Parental Responsibility Agreement. The Guardians/Carers who live with children who are in care/Looked after will be asked to complete the child's records, give consent and share information relating to the child. We will also ensure the child's social worker is kept informed on all matters concerning the child.

Assuming no court order restricting contact, Busy Bees Playgroup must communicate with both parents on all matters concerning their child, i.e., all information, correspondence, reports, notice of parents' evenings etc. Busy Bees Playgroup will:

- Ensure records of addresses are up-to-date and are amended if notified of any change by one parent. (Checked annually)
- Ensure that all information sent out is duplicated to both adults with parental responsibility.
- Remember the child's welfare is the paramount consideration.
- Have a duty to both parents, unless this duty has been overridden by the Family Courts.
- Seek parental permission for day trips from the parent/carer with whom the child lives daily.

### **The Child's Welfare**

If the parent/carer with day-to-day care makes a complaint about the other parent/carer's behaviour affecting the child's welfare (i.e., staying up too late etc.), Busy Bees Playgroup staff will be reluctant to intervene. Staff should advise the parent/carer with residential care to discuss the matter with the other parent/carer. If the problem continues, the Busy Bees staff may have no choice but to become involved. In such circumstances, Busy Bees has a legitimate interest to speak to both parents/carers ensuring both are aware of the effect the behaviour is having on the child.

## Informing the School

If we have an incident or case of child/ren that are at risk of serious harm from a family member or member of the public, a restraining order or have been issued with a no contact order the DSL (Hailie Sturt) or DDSL (Jess Bryan) would notify the school so everyone on site can be vigilant and safeguard the child/ren involved. The Chair would also be notified of this procedure. Staff to ensure all gates and security procedures are followed and documented.

The school is provided with Busy Bees Playgroup's Safeguarding Policies and procedures and all Safeguarding documentation is passed on to the school when a child transitions to reception.

Castle Hill Primary School contact number 01452 541183

## Further information

MARAC - Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference - these meetings are held to discuss high-level incidences of domestic abuse. The purpose of MARAC is to share information to increase the safety, health and wellbeing of the victims - adults and their children, to construct jointly and implement a risk assessment management plan that provides professional support to all those at risk and reduces the risk of harm. At present, education settings are not required to attend MARAC meetings.

MAPPA - Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements - As an education setting, on occasions, we may need to be involved in the assessment and management of a high-risk offender. MAPPA are convened to share relevant information and plan how the identified risks can be managed. MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) [MASH - Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub - Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)- A team of safeguarding professionals from Gloucestershire County Council Children and Education Services, Gloucestershire Police, Youth Support Service, the Gloucestershire Health Community and Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS), all working under one roof from the Gloucestershire MASH office. The team work together to build a clearer picture about the needs of vulnerable people. As a result, Gloucestershire MASH will give practitioners the information they need to make decisions about what action is needed to help keep people safe.

Helpdesk: 01452 726 570

Professionals: 01452 726 561

Email: [support@gdass.org.uk](mailto:support@gdass.org.uk)

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### **Legal references**

#### *Primary legislation*

Children Act 1989 – s 47

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)

Equalities Act (2006)

Equalities Act (2010)

Disability Discrimination Act (1995)

Data Protection Act (2018)

Freedom of Information Act (2000)

### **Legal references**

Working Together to Safeguard Children (HMG 2018)

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2021

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

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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 Counter-Terrorism 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 2023

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2022

Education Inspection Framework (Ofsted 2019)

The framework for the assessment of children in need and their families (DoH 2000)

The Common Assessment Framework (2006)

Statutory guidance on inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children (DfE 2015)

### ***Further guidance***

Information sharing advice for safeguarding practitioners (DfE 2018)

The Team Around the Child (TAC) and the Lead Professional (CWDC 2009)

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) – guide for practitioners (CWDC 2010)

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) – guide for managers (CWDC 2010)

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)

Safeguarding Children from Abuse Linked to a Belief in Spirit Possession (HMG 200)

Safeguarding Children in whom Illness is Fabricated or Induced (HMG 2007)

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 2014)

