




Hart Hill Nursery School

Safer Nursery Environment Policy

Updated Summer Term 2024

Ratified by SLT on 08-05-2024

Signed 

To be updated Summer Term 2027



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Rationale

The school has a commitment to fulfil the welfare requirements, as set out in the schools safeguarding Policy and Procedures, to ensure that all children and staff feel safe from exploitation in the school environment. We are aware that we have a vast site, including secluded spaces in the school building and the garden. We want to ensure that children remain as safe as they can, whilst still have awe and wonder, following the statutory guidance of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Aims

We aim to

- Ensure that children and staff can work in all areas of the school without fear of exploitation
- Promote supportive working between children and staff to feel safe and listened to
- Teach and support children to use conflict resolution when they are upset with their friends
- Ensure children know that they ask all adults for help and feel supported in what they are asking
- Fully support all children's play needs in the best ways that we can, so that everyone feels safe
- Be aware and regularly monitor areas of the garden that are not always in view or site

Guidelines

The classroom environments and the outdoor spaces will be developed to be exciting, interesting spaces for children to play and learn in safety.

The bathroom areas will be monitored regularly to ensure proper use.

There will be risk assessments linked to secluded spaces in the school and one member of staff should regularly be checking secluded spaces when playing in the garden.

Children will be taught about their own bodies and ways they can keep themselves safe, at an age appropriate level, through the use of the Jigsaw PSHE programme and the NSPCC Pants Rule Programme.

Children will be encouraged to follow the school rules and expectations and will be supported to tell someone if they do not like what is happened.

Any allegations or complaints will be dealt with following the school's relevant policies and procedures.

There will be regular staff updates and awareness raising of relevant information and key priorities linked to safeguarding young children and their families, as well as safeguarding staff.

Roles and Responsibilities

All staff will be trained to at least Level 1 in safeguarding, with annual online updated training and a 3 yearly cycle of face to face training.

All staff will have a responsibility to keep up to date with the school's risk assessments and this policy to ensure they are minimising the risk to children in secluded spaces, particularly in the garden.

Staff will ensure that the learning environment is managed in a safe way with staff following agreed timetables, which are in place to ensure high levels of supervision for children at specific times of the school day eg garden time.

The Headteacher and senior leadership team will ensure the policy is followed.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead will ensure that staff are kept up to date with training and any updates relevant to this policy and risk assessments associated with it.

Governors will ensure that the policy is implemented, evaluated and updated annually.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed as part of the three year policy cycle. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff by the Headteacher.

All members of staff directly involved with the supervision of children are required to familiarise themselves with all processes and procedures outlined as part of this policy, including all relevant Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework.