

St. Bernard's Extra



"Before & After" School Club

Victoria Park Avenue, Lea, Preston. PR2 1RP

Tel 01772 728153

Mobile No: 07495018123

Ofsted 119449

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

St Bernard's Extra believes that children have the right to be completely secure from both the fear and reality of abuse, and we are committed to protecting all children in our care from harm.

The Club's designated Child Protection Officer is: Mia Barlow.

The Child Protection lead is Miss Tidmarsh in Breakfast Club & Mrs. Eccles in ASC

The Company Director with responsibility for Child Protection is: Mia Barlow.

All staff and Committee members have a duty of care with regard to the children attending the Club, at all times the welfare of the children is paramount.

The Club aims to create an environment in which the children are safe from abuse.

Staff have a responsibility to take appropriate and immediate action if they suspect that a child may be suffering from abuse.

If a member of staff suspects a child may be suffering from abuse, they will follow the Local Safeguarding Children Board Procedures.

Recognising child abuse

Child abuse manifests itself in a variety of different ways, some overt and others much less so. All staff have regular child protection training and will be vigilant to signs and evidence of physical, sexual and emotional abuse or neglect.

Safeguards in place at the Club

To safeguard the children who attend the club we will:

- Recruit & select staff in accordance with OFSTED's recommendation with regard two references, police/health checks and suitable person interviews. NCSL 'Safer Recruitment' guidelines will be used throughout the recruitment process.
- Ensure all appointments will be made subject to a clear probationary period.
- Ensure all staff receive regular updates on Child Protection procedures and training.
- Ensure only persons who have enhanced CRB disclosure certificates will be appointed.
- Respect children's rights and encourage them, through adult support to express their feelings.
- Keep all information confidential, shared only with those agencies/persons who need to know.
- Ensure that all visitors are recorded in the Club Visitors book.

Disclosures

If a child discloses information to a member of staff. s/he will:

- Listen seriously to what the child has to say without making comment or asking further questions.
- Avoid making suggestions regarding how the incident(s) happened and avoid asking leading questions and making judgement.
- Avoid making assumptions about whom the allegations might concern.
- Make it clear to the child that the Designated Child Protection Officer of the Club will have to be informed.
- Inform the Designated Child Protection Officer as soon as possible.
- Record notes from the disclosure and pass these notes to the Designated Child Protection Officer without any prejudice or supposition being made.
- **COUNTY SAFEGUARDING 01772 532723**
- **CHILDREN SOCIAL SERVICES 0300 123 6720**

The role of the Designated Child Protection Officer is to:

- Decide whether or not the child needs immediate medical attention and take appropriate action.
- Decide as to whether or not they need to contact their local Social Services Children & Families Team immediately to make a referral.
- Contact the Committee member with responsibility for Child Protection to make them aware of the incident and decisions made.

The Local Safeguarding Children's Board procedures are available on line and are outlined the appendix.

If unsure of whether not to make a referral the named person will contact Children Integrated Services and ask to speak to a social worker.

- In some instances the named person **may** discuss their concerns with parents/carers.
- Continue to welcome both the child and their family to the Club in the event of a child protection investigation.
- Notify their OFSTED Early Years Care Inspector.
- If an allegation involves a member of staff or volunteer, they will be suspended immediately pending child protection investigation.