



Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy & Prevent Policy

Safeguarding Children and Child Protection

(Including recording and reporting, liaising with other agencies, suitable people and allegations against staff)

Policy Statement

Bradpole Preschool recognises its responsibility to promote the welfare of all children in our care. This policy outlines the procedures to be followed if there is any reason to believe that a child in our care is subject to any form of abuse or neglect.

Our primary responsibility is the welfare and wellbeing of each individual child in our care regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or identity as stated in the valuing diversity and promoting equality policy.

We believe we have a duty to the children, parents/carers and staff to act quickly and responsibly should a concern come to our attention.

The purpose of our policy is to provide staff and volunteers with guidance and the procedures they should adopt in the event that they suspect a child or young person may be experiencing harm or be at risk of harm.

This policy applies to all staff, committee members, volunteers, students and anyone working on behalf of Bradpole Preschool.

This policy is to be used in conjunction with other preschool policies including: Prevent Duty, First Aid policy and Intimate care policy.

Statutory Duty

The preschool has a duty to report any suspicions of abuse to children's social care. Under Section 47(1) of the Children Act 1989, children's social care services have a duty to investigate where there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm. Section 17 of the Act relates to "children in need", while Section 47 concerns children suffering or likely to suffer "significant harm".

The former Dorset Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) was established under the Children Act 2004 to promote multi-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children across Dorset. In July 2024, the Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership (PDSCP) separated into two partnerships: the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership and the BCP Safeguarding Children Partnership. Bradpole Preschool falls within the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership area.

Under the Childcare Act 2006, the preschool has a duty to appoint a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and to follow appropriate safeguarding procedures. The Childcare (Disqualification) Regulations 2009 and the Childcare Act 2006 set out the circumstances in which an individual may be disqualified from working within the preschool, together with the preschool's responsibilities regarding safer recruitment and suitability checks.

The preschool will also fulfil its responsibilities under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.



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Procedure

It is the duty of any staff member to report any suspected abuse to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Nikki Moss or Sally Parmiter, the deputy DSL. In the unlikely event neither are available, report this to the Committee Safeguarding Officer is Carol Duffy. (Mrs Duffy is the Sir John Colfox Deputy Head and their Designated Safeguarding Lead, DSL.)

We recognise that working in partnership with children, young people, their parents/carers and other agencies, is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

We will seek to safeguard children and young people by:

- Valuing them, listening to and respecting them;
- Adopting child protection guidelines through procedures and a code of conduct for staff and volunteers;
- Recruiting staff and volunteers safely;
- Ensuring that all necessary checks are made;
- Sharing information about child protection and good practice with children, parents/carers, staff and volunteers;
- Informing all visitors, once they have signed the visitors register, who the DSL for safeguarding is and to report to any concerns to that Lead.
- Sharing information about concerns, with the agencies that need to know, and involving parents/carers and children appropriately;
- Providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training;
- Reviewing our policy and practice annually, or as the need arises

Procedures for when there is a concern regarding a child/children

Bradpole Preschool is committed to responding promptly and appropriately to all incidents or concerns of abuse that may occur and to work with statutory agencies in accordance with the procedures that are set down in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (HM Government, 2026) and in line with the guidance, policies and procedures of the Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Children's Partnership (SCP) (contained in the red file on the shelf by the main entrance or available online at: <https://pandorsetscb.proceduresonline.com/>).

- If there is a concern about a child, Bradpole Preschool has a duty to contact Family Support and Advice Line using the professionals only phone number 01305 228558 making a verbal referral.
- We will keep a written record of the contact, discussion, and decisions made, including whether parental permission was obtained and, where it was not, the reasons for proceeding without consent. The relevant contact numbers are displayed on the notice board in the preschool room and in the staff office.
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or deputy should speak to the Family Support and Advice Line duty officer to share concerns regarding an incident or emerging pattern of concerns. The duty officer will discuss the matter with their manager and decide upon any further action, where applicable.
- The verbal referral will be confirmed in writing, within one day of the referral.



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- Children's Social Care should make a decision regarding the next steps and inform the setting accordingly.
- All records will be kept confidential and shared only on a need-to-know basis, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and relevant information-sharing guidance.

For Dorset families and members of the public, safeguarding concerns can be reported by contacting Family Support and Advice Line on 01305 228558, the Out of Hours Service on 01305 221000, or the Police on 999 in an emergency.

Types of Abuse

We acknowledge that abuse of children can take many different forms: physical, emotional, and sexual, as well as neglect. When children are suffering from physical, sexual or emotional abuse, or if they may be experiencing neglect, they may demonstrate this through the things they say (direct or indirect disclosure), or through changes in their approaches, behaviour or their play. This is of particular importance when working with nonverbal children or children with a disability. We are aware that abuse may occur between siblings within a family or perpetrated by another child this is called peer on peer abuse. We are also aware that within a larger family of multi siblings that abuse may only occur to one child or multiple children.

Online Safety

We recognise that children have access to technology both within and beyond the preschool setting and may therefore be at risk of online abuse from content (what they see), contact (who communicates with them) and conduct (how they behave or are treated online).

We acknowledge our responsibility to support children in developing the foundations of safe online behaviour, as outlined in *Safeguarding Children and Protecting Professionals in Early Years Settings*.

In line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework (3.4), we actively promote and role model the safe and appropriate use of technology, ensuring children are safeguarded from potential risks.

This commitment is reflected in our Use of Mobile Telephones and Cameras Policy and our Internet (E-Safety) Policy, which set out clear procedures for the safe use of digital devices within the setting.

Types of Abuse and our Procedures

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse involves deliberately causing physical harm to a child.

This may include hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning, scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical injury. It can also occur when a parent or carer fabricates or induces illness.

Action will be taken if staff have reason to believe that a child has sustained a physical injury, including deliberate poisoning, where there is known or suspected non-accidental harm or where injury has not been prevented.



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Any visible mark or injury present when a child arrives at the setting will be recorded on an 'injury on arrival' form, discussed with the parent/carer, and countersigned. Parents/carers are informed of this procedure on admission.

Records are stored securely with accident records and monitored regularly to identify any patterns or frequency of concern.

Where there is any discrepancy, concern, or if an injury is identified after arrival and a child makes a disclosure, this will be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), who will then follow the reporting procedure.

Non-mobile Protocol

The setting also follows the non-mobile child safeguarding protocol, recognising that injuries in children who are not independently mobile—defined as those not yet crawling, bottom shuffling, pulling to stand, cruising or walking, or older children with equivalent limited mobility due to disability—are rare and require immediate recording and referral in line with local safeguarding partnership guidance.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. This includes physical contact (e.g. assault) and non-contact activities such as involving children in looking at sexual images, grooming, or encouraging inappropriate behaviour.

Action will be taken if staff observe or are made aware of indicators that a child may be experiencing sexual abuse, including instances where a child demonstrates sexual activity through words, play or drawing, shows an excessive preoccupation with sexual matters, or displays knowledge of sexual behaviour that is not age-appropriate.

All concerns will be recorded accurately and promptly on a 'Record of Concern' form in line with setting procedures. The concern will be reported immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), who will then follow the reporting procedure.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child that affects their emotional development. This may include conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inappropriate expectations, overprotection, or preventing normal social interaction. It also includes serious bullying (including online) and exposure to domestic abuse.

Action will be taken if staff have reason to believe that a child is experiencing emotional abuse. Any concerns will be recorded promptly and accurately on a 'Record of Concern' form and reported without delay to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), who will then follow the reporting procedure.

We recognise that children who witness domestic abuse are particularly vulnerable and that this can have a significant impact on their emotional well-being and development across all areas; this is reflected in outcomes identified within Every Child Matters, and all such concerns will be managed in line with safeguarding procedures.



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Neglect

Action will be taken if staff have reason to believe that a child is experiencing persistent or severe neglect, including exposure to danger, lack of adequate supervision, cold, hunger or failure to meet basic care needs, resulting in significant impairment of the child's health or development, including non-organic failure to thrive. Any concerns will be recorded promptly and accurately on a 'Record of Concern' form and reported without delay to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), who will then follow the reporting procedure.

We recognise that children may also be vulnerable to, or affected by, factors such as domestic abuse, parental substance misuse, county lines activity, gang involvement and modern slavery; further guidance is available from the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership, and all concerns will be managed in line with local safeguarding procedures.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a form of child abuse and violence against women and girls. It "comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons" (World Health Organization).

FGM is a criminal offence in the UK, and there is a mandatory legal duty for regulated professionals to report to the police where it is known that FGM has been carried out on a girl under the age of 18, in line with the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 and statutory guidance in Working Together to Safeguard Children. Further guidance is available from the Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Children are also at risk from sexual exploitation, which is a form of child sexual abuse. It "occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity, in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator.

The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology" (Working Together to Safeguard Children). All concerns are reported following safeguarding procedures.

Further information can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-protecting-professionals-in-early-years-settings-online-safety-considerations>

Incidental and minor concerns and the procedure

We also have procedures to record incidental and minor concerns (e.g. repeated nappy rash that is not addressed, disclosure by a child that does not raise immediate concern, poor attendance).

- Where staff members may have incidental/minor concerns as stated above they must record these on a pink 'record of concern' form and give them to the DSL or deputy DSL who will store them in the Child protection file and monitor the situation.



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- Allegations of child abuse or neglect could lead to a criminal investigation so staff will not do anything to jeopardise this, for example ask a child leading questions or attempt to investigate allegations themselves. If initial clarification is needed or requested by CSC, staff may use open ended questions; we use the model T.E.D, (Tell me, Explain to me, Describe to me), but should be mindful that CSC and the police are responsible for child protection matters.

Further guidance to help identify a child's measure of need and to respond appropriately is set out in the Pan- Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Continuum of Need Threshold Tool. A paper copy is in the Safeguarding Children red file or available online at <file:///C:/Users/Staff/Downloads/Pan-Dorset-Continuum-of-Need-2019-V1.0.pdf>

Recording and Reporting suspicions of abuse and disclosures

We follow the detailed procedures and reporting guidance outlined by the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership. (<https://pdscp.co.uk/>)

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) contact: Dorset Council

lado@dorsetcc.gov.uk - 01305 221122

When a member of staff has concerns about a child, they will:

- Listen to the child, offer reassurance, and explain that appropriate action will be taken;
- Use only open-ended questions during any disclosure, following the T.E.D. approach:
 - *Tell me*
 - *Explain to me*
 - *Describe to me*
- Complete a pink 'Record of Concern' form to create an objective written record of the observation or disclosure, including:
 - the date and time of the observation or disclosure;
 - the exact words spoken by the child, where possible;
 - the name of the person to whom the concern was reported, including the date and time; and
 - the names of any other persons present at the time;
- Inform the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or deputy DSL of the concern at the earliest opportunity.

These records are signed and dated and stored securely and confidentially within the child's Child Protection File. The DSL also records concerns chronologically within the safeguarding records system.

As previously stated, children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) may be particularly vulnerable to abuse or neglect. Staff must therefore take extra care when identifying and interpreting possible signs of abuse.

Child absences (See our Attendance and Absence Policy)

- When children are absent, we expect parents/carers to contact us and let us know the reason for their child's absence. If they do not contact us, a member of staff will phone parents to establish a reason for the absence. If a child's first contacts are not reachable staff may proceed to contact further emergency contacts stated on the child's registration form.



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- We keep a record of the children's absences using an absence record form and marking them out on the register in red pen, this information is then collected and monitored by the administrator. When a concern arises about attendance, we will talk to the family to identify any issues.
- The Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Continuum of Need tool may be used to identify and monitor a child's measure of need and vulnerability. If it is felt that the family would benefit from additional support a TAF can be arranged to discuss multi-agency support. Any concerns/incidents discussed with parents, are recorded on an 'incident/concern' form and kept in the 'Child protection' file locked in the locker in the staff room.

Liaising with other agencies; making a referral to the local authority social care team

The Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Policies and Procedures contain detailed procedures for making a referral to the local social care team, as well as a template form for recording concerns and making a referral. This is based on 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused' (HMG 2015). We keep a summary of this document. All members of staff are familiar with and follow the procedure for recording and reporting and this is covered as part of their induction.

- Contact phone numbers are on display on the staff information board in the preschool room and in the office.
- A copy of the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Continuum of Need (2025) is displayed in the office and in the main room.

Information Sharing

The General Data Protection Regulations (2018) and Information Act (2018) require practitioners to be aware of the principles of sharing personal information. This legislation should not be a barrier limiting the purposes of keeping children safe. The Information Sharing: advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers (2018) provides guidance of the 7 golden rules to information sharing:

1. Remember that the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Data Protection Act 2018 and human rights law are not barriers to justified information sharing, but provide a framework to ensure that personal information about living individuals is shared appropriately.
2. Be open and honest with the individual (and/or their family where appropriate) from the outset about why, what, how and with whom information will, or could be shared, and seek their agreement, unless it is unsafe or inappropriate to do so.
3. Seek advice from other practitioners, or your information governance lead, if you are in any doubt about sharing the information concerned, without disclosing the identity of the individual where possible.



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4. Where possible, share information with consent, and where possible, respect the wishes of those who do not consent to having their information shared. Under the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 you may share information without consent if, in your judgement, there is a lawful basis to do so, such as where safety may be at risk. You will need to base your judgement on the facts of the case. When you are sharing or requesting personal information from someone, be clear of the basis upon which you are doing so. Where you do not have consent, be mindful that an individual might not expect information to be shared.

5. Consider safety and well-being: base your information sharing decisions on considerations of the safety and well-being of the individual and others who may be affected by their actions.

6. Necessary, proportionate, relevant, adequate, accurate, timely and secure: ensure that the information you share is necessary for the purpose for which you are sharing it, is shared only with those individuals who need to have it, is accurate and up to-date, is shared in a timely fashion, and is shared securely (see principles).

7. Keep a record of your decision and the reasons for it – whether it is to share information or not. If you decide to share, then record what you have shared, with whom and for what purpose”.

Suitable People

In accordance with the Childcare Act 2006 and the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements (2025), all staff working at Bradpole Preschool are subject to rigorous recruitment and suitability checks. These include enhanced criminal record checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS), a self-declaration of suitability to work with children (including criminal and relevant medical disclosures), the obtaining of two references, and identity checks carried out in line with Employment Policy 2(a).

The preschool is committed to maintaining an ongoing culture of vigilance and safeguarding. This is achieved by:

- Ensuring all staff familiarise themselves with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy and Whistleblowing Policy as part of the induction process;
- Ensuring all job advertisements and application processes clearly state that posts are exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974;
- Informing candidates that enhanced DBS checks must be completed before employment can be confirmed;
- Informing candidates of their right to challenge or correct any inaccurate information disclosed during the recruitment process;
- Informing all staff that they are required to complete an annual declaration disclosing any convictions, cautions, court orders, reprimands, or warnings that may affect



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their ongoing suitability to work with children, whether these were received before or during their employment with us.

- Meeting Ofsted requirements regarding suitability checks, references, and vetting procedures for staff and volunteers, ensuring that no disqualified or unsuitable person works within the setting or has access to children;
- Recording information relating to staff qualifications and completed suitability checks, including:
 - the DBS disclosure reference number;
 - the date the disclosure was obtained;
 - details of the person who obtained it; and
 - the organisation completing the check;
- Providing a thorough induction process, including a three-month probationary period;
- Requiring all staff to undertake safeguarding training relating to children and young people, with training updated every two years for staff. The DSL, deputy DSL and our committee Safeguarding Officer, Carol Duffy all hold Level 3 Safeguarding qualifications;
- Carrying out annual appraisals to review staff performance, conduct, and training needs;
- All staff are signed up to the DBS Update service.
This enables the preschool to do random to annual checks on disclosing any convictions, cautions, court orders, reprimands, or warnings that may affect their ongoing suitability to work with children, whether these occurred before or during employment;
- Ensuring all staff receive regular supervision meetings with the manager, enabling safeguarding concerns or family concerns to be raised and appropriate support or coaching to be identified;
- Clearly outlining safeguarding responsibilities and reporting expectations within staff job descriptions;
- Ensuring staff conduct remains professional at all times and does not place children at risk or bring the setting into disrepute, in accordance with the setting's Code of Conduct and the guidance provided by the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership regarding safer working practice;
- Making staff aware, through the Employee Handbook and Social Networking Policy, of expectations regarding contact with parents on social networking sites, in line with safer working practice guidance;
- Meeting responsibilities under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 in relation to referrals where an employee is dismissed, or resigns in circumstances that would otherwise have led to dismissal, due to safeguarding concerns;



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- Implementing security measures to control access to the setting and prevent unauthorised persons from having unsupervised access to children;
- Ensuring children are only photographed or filmed for purposes related to their development or participation in preschool activities. Parents provide written consent and may access records containing images of their child;
- Expecting staff to inform the preschool leader if they have contact with a child attending the preschool outside of the setting. This information is recorded within the individual's personnel file; and
- Making staff aware, through the Employee Handbook and Employment Policy, that they must not work directly with children if they are under the influence of alcohol or any substance that may impair their ability to care safely for children. Appropriate action will be taken where concerns arise.

Visitors and Volunteers

- The preschool has procedures in place for recording the details of visitors to the setting
- We will ensure that volunteers/students/parent helpers who have not undergone checks are fully supervised and never left alone with children or allowed to take children to the toilet.
- Volunteers/students are asked to sign and read information regarding safeguarding children and acceptable conduct before they work with the children.
- All nominated committee members have a DBS check.

Allegations Against Staff or Volunteers

Action will be taken if a concern is raised or an allegation is made against a member of staff or volunteer which suggests that a child has been harmed or may be at risk of harm. The preschool follows the procedures and guidance set out within the [Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Policies and Procedures Manual](#).

The preschool ensures that all parents are aware of how to raise concerns or make a complaint regarding the behaviour or conduct of staff members, volunteers, or any individual working on the premises, in accordance with Policy – Making a Complaint.

All staff are informed, through the Whistleblowing Policy, of their responsibility to report inappropriate behaviour displayed by other staff members or adults working with children.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- inappropriate sexual comments;
- excessive one-to-one attention beyond the requirements of their role and responsibilities; and
- inappropriate sharing or use of images.

All staff receive regular supervision meetings with one of the preschool leads, providing opportunities to raise any concerns regarding the conduct or behaviour of another member of staff.



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Where concerns are reported, the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Committee Chair will contact the Family Support and Advice Line for guidance and direction. If the concern relates to the DSL, staff and committee members are made aware of how to contact the Children's Advice and Duty Service or Ofsted directly.

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and Ofsted will be notified of any allegation in line with statutory safeguarding requirements.

Contact details for the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) contact: Dorset Council lado@dorsetcc.gov.uk - 01305 221122

In all cases, a written record of the concern or allegation will be completed, including the date, time, details of the concern, and the name and signature of the person making the report.

The Staff Handbook outlines the preschool's disciplinary procedures. Where the management team and Children's Social Care agree that it is appropriate, a staff member may be suspended on full pay while the matter is investigated. This is not an indication of admission that the alleged incident has taken place, but its purpose is to safeguard children, families, and staff throughout the investigation process.

Disciplinary action

If, following an investigation there is no proof of misconduct and a suspended person is to return to work, appropriate support will be put in place (e.g. mentoring/management of contact with the child/children/parents who made the allegation). If the complaint is upheld the staff member would be dismissed on the grounds of misconduct following usual disciplinary procedures.

Where a member of staff or a volunteer is dismissed from the setting because of misconduct relating to a child, we notify the Disclosure and Barring Service and administrators so that the name may be included on the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults Barred List.

Working with parents and carers

We ensure that parents are made aware of our safeguarding policies and procedures when their child starts attending the preschool. Details of our policy and procedures regarding safeguarding are explained in a clear way so as not to frighten, upset or accuse, but to impress upon them the commitment to their child's well-being. All policies are available to view on the preschool website and hard copies of all policies are kept in the preschool room. Parents/carers will be reassured that allegation against staff, students or volunteers, of abuse or neglect, will be taken seriously and will be reported to Family Support and Advice Line and investigated fully. At all times the child or young person's well-being comes first. Bradpole Preschool has the right to seek advice, regarding a concern that they have about a child, before discussing it with the child's parents/carer. If the child is thought to be at risk of significant harm, a referral may be made to Family Support and Advice Line without having first discussed it with the parent. The investigating officer from the local Children's Social Care Team, will notify the parents/carers.



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- We believe in building trusting and supportive relationships with families, staff and volunteers in the group
- We make clear to parents our role and responsibilities in relation to child protection, such as the reporting of concerns, providing information, monitoring of the child, liaising at all times with the local Children's Social Care team
- We will continue to welcome the child and the family whilst investigations are being made in relation to any alleged abuse
- We follow the Child Protection Plan as set by the child's social care worker in relation to the preschools designated role supporting the child and their family, subsequent to any investigation.
- Confidential records kept on a child are shared with the child's parents or those who have parental responsibility for the child in accordance with the Confidentiality policy 9(d) under the guidance of the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Planning

The layout of the rooms and staff deployment/ratios allow for constant supervision. No child is left alone with staff/volunteers/students in a one-to-one situation without being visible to others.

Curriculum

We are committed to empowering young children, through the Early Years curriculum, promoting their right to be strong, resilient and to be listened to.

- We introduce key elements of keeping children safe into our activities to promote the personal, social and emotional development of all children, so that they may grow up to be strong, resilient and listened to and so that they develop an understanding of why and how to keep safe
- We create, within the preschool, a culture of value and respect for the individual, having positive regard for children's heritage arising from their colour, ethnicity, language spoken at home, and cultural and social backgrounds
- We ensure that this is carried out in a way that is developmentally appropriate for the children.

Staff training

All staff, students and volunteers at Bradpole preschool are required to attend appropriate safeguarding training. This should be renewed every 2 years.

Safeguarding knowledge and skills should be refreshed at least once a year. Between training courses staff can keep up to date with developments in child protection and safeguarding by attending staff team meetings, using the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership website (and online Dorset Safeguarding Children newsletter), reading articles or documents signposted by the DSL or completing free online training through Early Years Alliance Central. For further information and links to Serious Case Reviews go to <https://pdscp.co.uk/dorset/working-with-parents-and-carers/learning-hub/>



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Legal Framework

Primary Legislation and Statutory Guidance

- Children Act 1989 (Section 47)
- Protection of Children Act 1999
- Children Act 2004
- Childcare Act 2006
- Children and Families Act 2014
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Data Protection Act 2018
- *Information Sharing: Advice for Practitioners Providing Safeguarding Services to Children, Young People, Parents and Carers* (HM Government, 2024)
- *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (HM Government, 2026)
- *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (Department for Education, 2025)
- *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage* (Department for Education, September 2025)

Secondary Legislation

- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000
- Equality Act 2010

Further Guidance

- *What to do if you're Worried a Child is Being Abused* (HM Government, 2015)
- *Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families* (Department of Health, 2000)
- *Continuum of Need* (Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership, 2025)
- *Statutory Guidance on Making Arrangements to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004* (HM Government, 2007)
- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Guidance and Regulated Activity Guidance
- Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership Policies and Procedures Manual
- *Safeguarding Children and Protecting Professionals in Early Years Settings: Online Safety Considerations for Practitioners* (Department for Education, 2019)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-protecting-professionals-in-early-years-settings-online-safety-considerations>

Contact information

Family Support and Advice Line contact: 01305 228558

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) contact: Dorset Council

lado@dorsetcc.gov.uk

01305 221122



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The Prevent Duty and Promoting British Values Policy

The Prevent Duty Policy forms part of our wider safeguarding duties to keep children safe from harm and should be used in conjunction with other preschool safeguarding and child protection policies. This policy focuses on the prevention of radicalisation and the promotion of British Values.

The Preschool has a duty “to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” in accordance with Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to a terrorist ideology. As with managing other safeguarding risks, staff should be alert to changes in behaviour which could indicate that they maybe in need of help or protection. Children at risk of radicalisation may display different signs or seek to hide their views. Staff should use their professional judgement in identifying children who might be at risk of radicalisation by others, whether in the family or outside and display concerning behaviour. The prevent duty does not require childcare providers to carry out unnecessary intrusion into family life but as with any other safeguarding risk, they must take action when they observe behaviour or concerns. Staff should complete an online general awareness training every 3 years through the Channel Programme, to support their understanding in identifying individuals.

IT policy

As with any other online risk, staff need to be aware of the risk of any extreme or terrorist activity online. This is minimised at preschool due to children not accessing the Internet directly.

Building Children's Resilience to Radicalisation

The fundamental British values are already embedded in the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum (2021) and are defined as:

- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual liberty and mutual respect
- Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs

These values are not uniquely British but are universal aspirations for equality. As such, they are fundamental to helping all children to become compassionate, considerate adults who form part of a fair and equal society. They are implemented through policies and procedures relating to equality, behaviour, safeguarding, child protection, with which the prevent duty is entirely consistent. To fulfil the prevent duty, the preschool will ensure that:

- Staff are able to identify children who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.
- Staff members are aware that if they observe concerning behaviour or actions, the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Nikki Moss, or the Designated Safeguarding Deputy Lead, Sally Parmiter will be informed or in their absence the Committee Safeguarding Officer, Carol Duffy will be informed.



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The department for education tel. 02073407264. Counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk. Please note that the helpline is not intended for use in an emergency situation, such as a child being in immediate risk of significant harm or a security incident, in which case follow normal emergency procedures.

- We take into account factors affecting parental capacity such as: social exclusion, domestic violence, parent's drug or alcohol abuse, mental or physical illness or parent's learning disability.
- We are aware of other factors that affect children's vulnerability such as: abuse of disabled children, fabricated or induced illness, child abuse linked to beliefs, spirit possessions, sexual exploitation of children such as through Internet abuse and female genital mutilation that may affect, or has affected children and young people using our preschool.
- We also make ourselves aware that some children and young people are affected by gang activity, by complex multiple or organised abuse, through forced marriage or honour-based violence. They may also be victims of child trafficking. While this is less likely to affect young children in our care, we may become aware of any of these factors affecting older children and young people, who we may come into contact with.
- We actively protect children and teach them to value British values.
- The layout of the room allows for constant supervision.
- We introduce key elements of keeping children safe through our personal, social and emotional development (we use the Rainbow Seal Guidance) so that children grow to be strong, resilient and listened to so they develop an understanding of why and how to keep safe.
- We create within the setting a culture of value and respect for the individual, having positive regard for children's heritage arising from their ethnicity, language, language spoken at home, cultural and social background. We ensure that this is carried out in a way that is developmentally appropriate for the children.
- The best way to help children resist extremist views, is to teach them to think critically and become independent learners which is fundamental to the characteristics of effective learning and teaching embedded in the EYFS.
- We endeavour to support our children through the EYFS by providing playful learning opportunities to help them develop positive, diverse and communal identities, as well as their wellbeing, their empathy and emotional literacy while continuing to take action to eradicate inequalities, bullying, discrimination, exclusion, aggression and violence; all of which foster and secure children's pro social behaviour, responsible citizenship and real sense of belonging.
- We will build up an effective engagement with parents/carers and families as they are in a key position to spot signs of radicalisation. We will assist and advise families who raise a concern with us.
- We will ensure that the designated safeguarding lead will undertake prevent awareness training.
- We will ensure that all resources used in the preschool are age appropriate for the children in our care.



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Further advice and guidance is available on the Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership website and online guidance available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-and-protecting-professionals-in-early-years-settings-online-safety-considerations>

Statutory Guidance

- Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (Department for Education, September 2025)
- Revised Prevent Duty Guidance: for England and Wales (HM Government, 2023)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance/revised-prevent-duty-guidance-for-england-and-wales>
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (HM Government, 2026)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education (Department for Education, 2025)
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021 Statutory Guidance (HM Government, updated 2025)

Legislation

- Sentencing and Courts Act 2022
- Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Health Guidance (if required)

- Health Protection in Children and Young People Settings, Including Education (UK Health Security Agency, 2025)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of: The Committee of Bradpole Preschool

Held during the Summer 2026.

Date to be reviewed: Summer 2027