**Summary of the Safeguarding Children and Child Protection Policy**

This policy outlines how the nursery ensures the safety, welfare, and rights of children. Below is a simplified summary for our parents/carers:

**Key Objectives:**

* **Safe Environment:** The nursery is committed to creating a safe, respectful, and nurturing environment for all children.
* **Safeguarding Lead:** A designated staff member oversees child protection and safeguarding procedures.
* **Collaboration:** The nursery works with parents, local authorities, and community partners to ensure children’s welfare.

**Safeguarding Practices:**

* **Staff Training:** All staff are trained to recognise and address signs of abuse or neglect, with updates every two years.
* **Types of Abuse:** The nursery monitors and acts on concerns regarding physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, neglect, and specific issues like female genital mutilation (FGM), domestic abuse, and child exploitation.
* **Reporting:** Concerns are logged and shared with appropriate authorities, such as local social services and Ofsted.
* **Whistleblowing:** Staff and external individuals can report concerns anonymously to authorities like the NSPCC if necessary.

**Specific Concerns Addressed:**

1. **Physical Abuse:** Unexplained injuries or unusual behaviour are monitored and investigated.
2. **Emotional Abuse:** Signs include extreme behaviour changes or lack of attachment.
3. **Sexual Abuse:** Awareness of inappropriate behaviour, language, or symptoms.
4. **Neglect:** Persistent unkempt appearance, hunger, or lack of care are red flags.
5. **Cultural Practices:** Issues like FGM and breast ironing are treated seriously, with legal and safeguarding actions taken.

**Other Safety Measures:**

* **E-Safety:** Internet use is closely monitored to ensure children only access safe and age-appropriate content.
* **Absences:** Regular attendance is tracked, and unexplained absences are followed up.
* **Staffing:** All staff undergo strict background checks and are never left alone with children unless fully vetted.

**Support for Families:**

The nursery works non-judgmentally with families if concerns arise, offering support while prioritizing the child’s welfare.

**Key Contact Numbers:**

* **Local Safeguarding Partners:** 0161 234 3330
* **Children’s Social Care:** 0161 234 5001
* **NSPCC Helpline:** 0808 800 5000

This policy demonstrates the nursery’s commitment to protecting children and working with parents to ensure every child’s well-being. If you have concerns or questions, speak with the Designated Safeguarding Lead or nursery staff.