



Child Protection Policy

The Nature Box Forest School keeps the needs and best interests of children at the centre of everything we do. We aim to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in our care by:

Providing a safe learning environment that builds their confidence and self-esteem:

- Where children's physical safety is protected
- Where children can talk and are listened to
- Where children do not experience bullying, harassment, racism or any other form of discrimination
- Where children's medical and health needs are met

Providing positive and preventative sessions that teaches and supports young children:

- To make good choices about healthy, safe lifestyles
- To ask for help if their health or wellbeing is threatened, including their emotional wellbeing

Promoting the fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance by:

- Encouraging children to know that their views count, to value each other's views and values and to talk about their feelings
- Providing activities that involve turn-taking, sharing and collaboration
- Supporting children to understand their own and others' behaviour and its consequences and to learn to distinguish right from wrong
- Providing activities that involve children in creating rules and codes of behaviour and developing understanding that the rules apply to everyone
- Actively promoting a culture of inclusivity and tolerance where views, faiths, cultures and races are valued, and children are engaged with the wider community

- Promoting diverse attitudes and challenging stereotypes by providing resources and activities that reflect and value the diversity of children's experiences and challenge gender, cultural and racial stereotyping

Working in partnership with parents and carers:

- We are committed to developing and maintaining an honest and open relationship with parents and carers
- We are committed to involving parents and carers at all stages of a child's care and learning
- Parents and carers understand our setting's safeguarding responsibilities and how we will implement them

Working in an inclusive way that helps every child:

- To feel accepted and included
- To develop confidence and self-esteem and fulfil their potential
- To receive an equal service regardless of their needs and circumstances

Working in an integrated way with other agencies that maximises opportunities for:

- Early identification of additional needs, early intervention and prevention
- Speedy intervention based on multi-agency co-operation
- Common methods of sharing information and assessing need e.g. use of the Family Common Assessment Framework, Information Sharing advice and the Lead Professional role
- Resolving professional disagreements with other agencies in a constructive and timely fashion

Having up-to-date safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance:

- Based on current national statutory guidance, Sheffield Safeguarding Children Board Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures and the Early Years Foundation Stage Welfare Requirements (2017)
- Easily accessible by all staff and volunteers
- Understood and used by all staff, students and volunteers
- Reviewed annually

Having well trained staff and management who:

- Recognise their individual responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their care
- Receive training and supervision appropriate to their level of responsibility

- Are clear and confident about what is expected of them
- Ask for advice and support to act on safeguarding concerns and take appropriate action
- All staff of The Nature Box Forest School will have completed the full recruitment process before they are allowed to work unsupervised with children and young people.
- There will be no situation where possible that staff are lone working. The only time this is possible is in the event of an emergency.