Safeguarding Policy

**Introduction:**

Amelia’s House (Timeless Montessori) provides childminding services to families in Ealing and the surrounding area. We offer our services to children from 0-5 years old. At Amelia's House, we provide a safe, fun, and nurturing environment for children to learn and grow. Our experienced staff is dedicated to ensuring that each child feels valued and supported, and our comprehensive curriculum is designed to promote physical, emotional, and intellectual development.

**Statement of Commitment:**

We believe that children and young people should never experience abuse of any kind.

We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

The welfare of children is paramount in all the work we do and in all the decisions we take.

At Amelia’s House we aim to create an environment that is safe, and we are committed to doing everything in our power to protect children, promote their welfare and support their families.

**Purpose of this policy:**

The purpose of this policy is to:

• Effectively safeguard children and promote their rights and welfare.

• Provide all staff and volunteers with clear rules to follow.

• Make all staff and volunteers aware of what is expected of them in terms of their approach, behaviour and actions.

• Evidence to Amelia’s House users, parents and carers, the local community,

partner organisations, the local authority and funding and commissioning bodies that Amelia’s House is committed to safeguarding.

**Scope of this policy:**

This policy applies to all Amelia’s House staff and volunteers, including trustees,

sessional workers, students on work placements and anyone working on behalf of Amelia’s House.

**Definitions:**

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is the process of:

• Protecting children from maltreatment.

• Preventing impairment of children’s health or development.

• Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care.

• Taking action to enable all children to have the best life chances.

Child protection is the process of protecting individual children identified as either suffering, or at risk of suffering, significant harm as a result of abuse or neglect.

**Legislative framework**

At Amelia’s House we recognise our legal responsibility to safeguard children

and promote their welfare. We will therefore act within the framework set by the Children Act 1989 and The Children Act 2004. We will also follow the Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 guidance (and any updates). As our safeguarding procedures, we adopt the Ealing Safeguarding Children Guidance 2022 (the Yellow Book).

**Underlying principles and practices**

At Amelia’s House we will safeguard children by:

• Following the Yellow Book in our day-to-day work.

• Appointing a Designated Safeguarding Lead for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding.

• Listening to children and young people and always respecting and valuing them.

• Challenging discrimination and promoting the right to equal protection regardless

of race, ethnicity, culture, religion, faith, gender, sexual orientation, disability, social or immigration status or any other element of diversity.

• Providing effective management to staff and volunteers through support, supervision and training.

• Recruiting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring that all necessary checks are made and safe recruitment good practice guidelines are followed.

• Responding to both child protection and non-child protection concerns immediately.

• In cases of doubt, questions or need for guidance, always seeking advice by calling ECIRS **(020 8825 8000),** or, in cases involving staff/volunteers, the Ealing Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) on **020 8825 8930** or **asv@ealing.gov.uk**

• Working in partnership with children, their parents and carers, members of the local community and local statutory and voluntary organisations.

• Adhering to the attached Code of Behaviour for staff and volunteers at all times.

• Developing and implementing an effective online safety policy and related procedures.

• Ensuring that we have effective complaints and whistleblowing measures in place.

• Ensuring that we provide a safe physical environment for our children, young people, staff and volunteers, by applying health and safety measures in accordance with the law and regulatory guidance.

**Details of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and their Deputy**

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for Amelia’s House is:

Name: Annabel Gurdikyan-Williams

Job/role title: Childminder

Contact tel.: 07738015066

Email: annabel@timelessmontessori.co.uk

**Review arrangements**

Amelia’s House will review this policy annually. In cases of relevant legal or

procedural changes, we will review this policy accordingly.

This policy was last reviewed on 13th of January 2025

Signed: