

CANTERBURY COLLEGE POLICY

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

EFFECTIVE DATE: 1 September 2007

LAST REVIEWED: April 2007

REVIEWED BY: Director of Student Support Services

NEXT REVIEW: 'as required'

POLICY LEAD: Lut Stewart DSSS

Copies of policies may be obtained via the College's web site. Hard copies may be obtained via the Clerk to the Corporation. Administration fees may be applied for provision of more than one hard copy. Any fee will be confirmed prior to dispatch of copies and may be waived at the College's discretion.

Child Protection Policy

The Children's Centre will at all times uphold the College Child Protection Policy. In addition to this, guidelines from "Safeguarding Children" will also be adhered to.

Aim

It is the policy of The Children's Centre to provide a secure and safe environment for all the children.

It aims to:

- Ensure that children are never placed at risk whilst in the care of the nursery staff.
- Ensure that confidentiality is maintained at all times.
- Revise staff awareness to Child Protection issues and procedures.
- To work with children, parents and outside agencies to ensure the safety of children and to give them the very best start in life.

Procedures

For the purpose of this policy abuse is deemed to be any of the following:

Physical

Neglect

Sexual

Emotional

Standard 13 of the Guidance to The National Standards:

"The registered person complies with local child protection procedures approved by the Area Child Protection Committee and ensures that all adults working and looking after children in the provision are able to put the procedure into practice"

- We provide adequate and appropriate staffing resources to meet the needs of children.
- We abide by Ofsted requirements in respect of references and police checks for staff and students, to ensure that no disqualified person or unfit person works at the nursery or has access to the children.
- We have a procedure for recording the details of visitors to the nursery.
- We take security steps to ensure that we have control over who comes into the nursery, so that no unauthorised person has unsupervised access to children.
- We seek out training opportunities for all adults involved in the nursery to ensure that they are able to recognise the signs and symptoms of possible physical,

- emotional, sexual abuse and neglect so they are aware of the local authority guidelines for making referrals.
- We ensure that all staff knows the procedures for reporting their concerns in the nursery.
 - We introduce key elements of child protection into our foundation stage, so that children can develop understanding of why and how to keep safe.
 - We create within the nursery a culture of value and respect for the individual.
 - We ensure that this is carried out in a way that is appropriate for the ages and stages of our children.

The Children's Centre staff follows a procedure in the event of any suspicions of abuse to children in their care.

- If a member of staff sees, hears or is told something that makes them concerned about a child's welfare, they will report it to the Childcare Co-ordinator.
- The Childcare Co-ordinator will record in detail factual evidence and concerns.
- Staff working directly with the child i.e. staff in the room, will be asked to observe and monitor the child sensitively over the shortest period of time possible, but allowing ample time to substantiate concerns.
- The Childcare Co-ordinator will then consult a senior colleague whereby the concern will be discussed and addressed accordingly, depending on the circumstances.
- If a member of staff has any concerns that the Childcare Co-ordinator, Debra Ashley, is displaying signs of abuse towards a child, they must immediately inform her line manager, Lut Stewart.
- If a member of staff has an allegation of abuse towards a child made against them by either another member of staff or a parent, they will immediately be suspended on full pay.

All suspicions and investigations are kept confidential and shared only with those who need to know. Any information is shared under the guidance of the Area Child Protection Team.

Review Date: April 2007