



Parent Friendly Safeguarding Policy.

Intervention and Family Services

REVIEWED: 21/09/2023. **DATE FOR NEXT REVIEW: 21/09/2024.**

This policy reflects the values and philosophy of Running Deer Intervention and Family services in relation to safeguarding. At The Running Deer Intervention and Family Services we are concerned that all children remain safe and free from harm. We are committed to playing a full and active part in the multi-agency response to child protection concerns. Additionally, the Intervention service has a legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to have a child protection policy.

Through their daily contact with children, and direct work with families, Intervention staff have a crucial role to play in noticing indicators of possible abuse or neglect. Parents should be aware therefore that where it appears to a member of staff that a child may have been abused, the Intervention service is required, as part of the local child protection procedures to report their concern to Social Care immediately. To avoid any misunderstandings therefore, parents of children who sustain accidental injuries, which result in cuts/bruises/fractures, should inform the Intervention service without delay.

Key Principles.

- Children have a right to be safe, to be listened to, valued and respected.
- Parents have a right to be informed of any concerns regarding their child.
- Children are best protected when parents and Intervention staff can work together.
- All staff paid and unpaid are given appropriate training and support.
- All staff paid and unpaid are subject to rigorous recruitment checks.

Principles in practice.

To ensure children are effectively protected we ensure that:

- We have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (Adam Baxter) and a Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Chris Bollons) with responsibility for safeguarding and child protection. They attend multi-agency training at least once every two years and local network meetings.

- All staff are trained in Level 2 basic child protection awareness at least every three years.
- There is a safeguarding slot in staff meetings to discuss safeguarding matters.
- A parent friendly child protection leaflet and a child friendly leaflet are provided for all children and their families.
- The safeguarding policy is accessible on the Intervention website.
- The safeguarding policy is reviewed by the governing body annually.

The Board oversee all matters pertaining to safeguarding policy and practice in the Intervention service. Safeguarding reports are provided to the full governing body termly.

Partnership.

Intervention will inform parents of any concerns about their children (providing it does not compromise the child's safety) and will help support them as necessary.

Prevention.

Intervention staff will take positive action to prevent children suffering abuse and neglect through the development of an open culture that informs children of their rights (UNICEF UN Convention on the Rights of the child) and encourages them to speak about any concerns. The Intervention will also address the issue of children's safety through our Alternative Provision.

Responding to Concerns.

Intervention staff will refer all allegations or concerns that a child has been or is likely to be abused or neglected to Social Care within the Children's Services Department. Intervention will consult with other agencies when it has concerns that a child may have been abused or neglected. Intervention staff will discuss with parents any concerns they have about children. Parents will be kept informed of what has happened.

Child/Child Abuse.

Physical and emotional abuse of children by other children will be dealt with through the Intervention's anti-bullying policy. Parents will be kept informed. All concerns about possible sexual abuse will be referred to Social Care.

Child Protection Conferences.

Intervention staff will attend conferences and provide information about children and families. This information will be shared with parents beforehand. Intervention will keep confidential child protection records separately from a pupil's academic and other Intervention records.

Confidentiality.

Information from parents about possible child abuse cannot be kept confidential. Information and records about children on the Child Protection Register will be given only to those people who need it and will be kept strictly confidential by them.

A Full copy of the Interventions Service Safeguarding policy is available at <http://out.rdcic.org.uk/creative-interventions-safeguarding-policy.pdf>