

Safeguarding Policy

The Play Professionals believes that a child or young person should never experience abuse of any kind. We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all children and young people and to keep them safe. We are committed to practice in a way that protects them.

This policy is based on the law and guidance that seeks to protect children, including:

- Children's Act 1989
- United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child 1991
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Sexual Offences Act 2003
- Children's Act 2004
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015
- London Child Protection Procedures 5th Edition 2015

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the child is paramount
- All children, regardless of age, ability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity, have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some children are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Working together with children, young people, their parents, carers and other agencies is essential in promoting children and young people's welfare

What to do if you are worried about a child's safety or welfare or about the behaviour of an adult

You should follow the procedures below and report to your Centre Manager or Safeguarding Officer at the earliest opportunity.

If a child is in immediate danger

If a child is in **IMMEDIATE DANGER**, contact the police and ask for the Child Protection Unit or dial 999, then contact the Safeguarding Officer at the earliest opportunity.

If a child is in need of urgent medical help

If a child is in **NEED OF MEDICAL HELP**, get medical help first then contact the Safeguarding Officer at the earliest opportunity.

Lambeth Integrated Hub for Social Care Referrals

9am – 5pm: 0207 926 3100.

Out of hours: 0207 926 5555

Southwark MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub):

9am – 5pm: 7525 1921

Out of hours: 020 7525 5000

Wandsworth Child Protection:

9am – 5pm: 020 8871 6622

Out of hours: 020 8871 6000

The Play Professionals maintains current contact information at each branch and at head office for Police, Social Services, the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) and other relevant bodies.