

06: Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults Policy

Incorporating associated procedures 06.1–06.10

Policy adopted by: James Ediker

Date adopted: 1 September 2025

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL): James Ediker

Deputy DSL(s):

Policy Statement

At Little Robins Nursery, we are fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children, young people, and vulnerable adults in our care. This commitment is embedded in our daily practice and underpins our ethos, curriculum, and relationships with children, families, and professionals.

This policy is designed to meet statutory duties under the Children Act 1989 and 2004, the Care Act 2014, and the EYFS 2024, as well as to align with Ofsted's Education Inspection Framework (EIF 2024), which expects safeguarding to be effective, embedded, and well understood across the setting.

Our Safeguarding Intent

- To create a culture of vigilance where children and vulnerable individuals feel respected, safe, and listened to.
 - To empower children to develop resilience and learn how to keep themselves safe.
 - To ensure all staff are proactive, confident, and capable in recognising and responding to safeguarding concerns.
 - To identify and support children and families at risk as early as possible through robust early help processes.
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Key Commitments (Aligned with EYFS and Ofsted Expectations)

1. Empowering and Protecting

- Staff receive **induction and ongoing safeguarding training**, including knowledge of signs and indicators of abuse, neglect, and broader contextual risks (e.g. exploitation, radicalisation, FGM, county lines).
- Children are supported through a **safeguarding-informed curriculum** (e.g. PSED) that promotes self-esteem, rights, and safety.
- Staff understand the **impact of adversity**, including domestic abuse, substance misuse, and mental health, and apply this understanding to everyday interactions.
- Safeguarding and child protection are woven throughout all activities and reviewed regularly in **team meetings, supervision, and reflective practice**.

2. A Culture of Safety

- All staff are recruited using **Safer Recruitment** procedures, including enhanced DBS checks and scrutiny of employment history and references.
- Procedures are in place for responding to:
 - Allegations against staff (in line with **LADO** procedures)

- Peer-on-peer abuse
- Online safety incidents
- Concerns about parental behaviour
- We follow **threshold guidance** from our Local Safeguarding Partners and use the **Early Help Assessment** when appropriate.
- We have clear **information sharing** practices, consistent with GDPR and safeguarding duties.
- Safeguarding practice is regularly **audited and quality assured**, and learning from incidents or reviews is used to strengthen procedures.

3. Leadership, Oversight, and Professionalism

- The **DSL and Deputy DSL(s)** are trained to a high standard and are supported with regular updates, supervision, and access to safeguarding networks.
- The DSL:
 - Leads on inter-agency work and attends child protection conferences and core groups.
 - Ensures that staff understand specific vulnerabilities (e.g. SEND, EAL, children with social workers).
 - Champions **inclusion, equality, and anti-discriminatory practice** in all safeguarding matters.
 - Maintains accurate, secure records of concerns and actions taken.
- Safeguarding roles and responsibilities are clearly defined and understood by all staff.

4. Learning, Training and Multi-Agency Working

- All staff receive **annual safeguarding training**, with updates throughout the year via briefings and reflective supervision.
- The DSL contributes to **local safeguarding structures** (e.g. LSP forums), ensuring the voices of early years settings are heard.
- The setting works proactively with a range of external agencies to safeguard children and promote their well-being.
- We promote a '**Team Around the Child**' approach, supporting collaborative early help strategies.

Implementation and Impact Monitoring (Ofsted-aligned)

- **Implementation:** Training records, supervision notes, safeguarding audits, referral logs, CPOMS entries (if used), and curriculum planning evidence the embedding of policy.
- **Impact:** Safeguarding is robust, timely concerns are acted upon, staff are confident, and children feel safe and secure.
- **Review:** This policy is reviewed annually, or earlier if there are changes in legislation, guidance, or local procedures.

Legal and Statutory Framework

(No changes – this section is comprehensive and up-to-date)