

NEWTON INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY SMASH



EYFS CHILD PROTECTION CARE POLICY

POLICY REVIEWED

July 2026

POLICY TO BE REVIEWED

July 2027





EYFS Child Protection and Care Policy

Policy Review Date: August 2026

Introduction

At Newton International Academy Smash, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every child in our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). We recognise that children have the right to be protected from harm and to grow up in a safe, secure and nurturing environment.

All practitioners have a duty of care to safeguard children, promote their welfare and take appropriate action if they have concerns about a child's safety or wellbeing. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Safeguard and promote the welfare of every child.
- Ensure all staff understand their responsibilities for child protection.
- Provide clear procedures for recognising, recording and reporting concerns.
- Promote children's health, safety and emotional wellbeing.
- Create a safe, inclusive and nurturing learning environment.
- Work in partnership with parents, carers and external agencies to support children's welfare.

Duty of Care

All EYFS staff will:

- Place the welfare of children at the centre of all decision-making.
- Supervise children appropriately at all times.
- Provide a safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment.
- Promote children's physical, emotional and mental wellbeing.
- Encourage children to develop confidence, resilience and independence.
- Maintain professional boundaries with children and families.
- Treat every child with dignity, kindness and respect.

Child Protection

All staff are responsible for:

- Remaining alert to signs of abuse, neglect or exploitation.
- Listening carefully to any concerns or disclosures made by a child.
- Recording concerns accurately and promptly.
- Reporting concerns immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).
- Maintaining confidentiality by sharing information only with those who need to know.
- Never investigating concerns independently.

The welfare of the child will always be the academy's paramount consideration.

Types of Abuse

Staff receive training to recognise the four main categories of abuse:

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Neglect

Staff are also aware of wider safeguarding issues including:

- Domestic abuse
- Child-on-child abuse
- Online safety
- Grooming and exploitation
- Female genital mutilation (FGM), where relevant to local legislation
- Radicalisation and extremism, where applicable

Daily Care of Children

Practitioners will:

- Meet children's personal care needs respectfully and sensitively.
- Promote healthy eating and healthy lifestyles.
- Encourage good hygiene practices.
- Administer first aid and medication in accordance with academy procedures.
- Ensure children have access to clean drinking water throughout the day.
- Maintain appropriate adult-to-child ratios.
- Complete regular risk assessments of the learning environment.
- Ensure all equipment is safe and suitable for use.

Personal Care

Staff will:

- Respect children's privacy and dignity.
- Encourage children to become increasingly independent.
- Explain all personal care procedures before providing assistance.
- Obtain consent appropriate to the child's age and understanding.
- Record any significant personal care incidents where appropriate.

Safe Working Practice

Staff will:

- Follow the schools' Code of Conduct.
- Wear appropriate professional clothing.
- Use positive behaviour management strategies.
- Never use physical punishment.
- Avoid being alone with a child where possible.
- Use approved communication systems only.
- Maintain accurate records where necessary.

Partnership with Parents

We believe that safeguarding is most effective when there is a strong partnership with parents and carers.

The school will:

- Share relevant information regarding children's welfare.
- Hold regular meetings with parents where concerns arise.
- Work collaboratively to support children's development.
- Signpost families to additional support services where appropriate.

Where safeguarding concerns indicate that a child may be at risk of harm, information may be shared with appropriate agencies without parental consent if this is necessary to protect the child.

Health and Safety

The school will:

- Maintain secure entry and exit procedures.
- Carry out regular risk assessments.
- Ensure all staff receive safeguarding, first aid and health and safety training.
- Monitor visitors to the setting.
- Maintain accurate accident and incident records.

Responding to Concerns

If a child discloses abuse or a member of staff has concerns:

1. Stay calm and listen carefully.
2. Reassure the child that they have done the right thing.
3. Do not promise confidentiality.
4. Record exactly what has been said.
5. Report immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.
6. Follow academy safeguarding procedures.

In an emergency, immediate action will be taken to protect the child.

Staff Training

All staff will:

- Receive safeguarding induction before working with children.
- Complete annual safeguarding and child protection training.
- Receive regular updates on safeguarding guidance.
- Understand the schools' reporting procedures.

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