

Child Protection Policy for Tiny World Baby Sensory Class

Purpose

This policy outlines the commitment of Tiny World Baby Sensory to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children participating in our baby sensory classes. It provides clear guidance to staff, volunteers, and parents/carers on maintaining a safe environment and ensuring the safety and well-being of children.

Policy Statement

At Tiny World Baby Sensory, we believe that every child has the right to feel safe, protected, and valued. We recognize our responsibility to safeguard children from harm and ensure a nurturing environment that supports their development.

Key Principles

1. **Safety First:** The safety and welfare of the child are paramount.
2. **Child-Centered Approach:** Activities will be designed to suit the age and developmental needs of babies and young children.
3. **Equality and Inclusivity:** All children and families will be treated with respect and without discrimination.
4. **Transparency:** We will work in partnership with parents/carers, maintaining open communication and transparency at all times.

Scope

This policy applies to:

- All staff and volunteers involved in the sensory class.
- Parents and carers attending the sessions with their children.
- Any third-party providers working in association with [Your Organization/Class Name].

Staff Responsibilities

1. **Recruitment and Training:**
 - All staff and volunteers working with children must undergo appropriate background checks (e.g., DBS in the UK).
 - Staff must complete child protection and safeguarding training.
2. **Supervision and Ratios:**
 - Staff must ensure appropriate adult-to-child ratios are maintained.
 - Children must always remain under the supervision of their parent/carer during sessions.
3. **Behavioral Standards:**
 - Staff must act professionally and serve as role models at all times.

- Any behavior or language that could distress or harm a child is strictly prohibited.

4. Incident Management:

- Any concerns or incidents must be reported immediately to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL).
- Staff must document and report all incidents using the appropriate forms.

Parent/Carer Responsibilities

- Parents/carers are responsible for the direct supervision of their child during the session.
- Parents/carers must disclose any medical conditions or special needs that may affect their child's participation.
- Parents/carers are expected to support a safe and positive environment.

Safeguarding Procedures

1. Risk Assessments:

- Regular risk assessments will be conducted to identify and mitigate potential hazards.
- Equipment will be checked regularly to ensure safety and cleanliness.

2. Responding to Concerns:

- Concerns about a child's welfare will be taken seriously and reported to the DSL.
- If a child is at immediate risk of harm, appropriate authorities (e.g., social services or police) will be contacted.

3. Confidentiality:

- Any information shared regarding safeguarding concerns will be handled confidentially and shared only with those who need to know.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Jane Wheelan

The DSL is responsible for:

- Overseeing the implementation of this policy.
- Providing guidance and support to staff and parents/carers.
- Liaising with external agencies if required.

Code of Conduct for Staff and Volunteers

1. Always act in the best interests of the child.

2. Avoid any behavior that could be misinterpreted or raise concerns.
3. Do not share personal contact information with families or arrange unsupervised meetings outside the class.
4. Maintain appropriate boundaries and never engage in inappropriate physical contact.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or when legislation changes. Feedback from staff, parents, and carers will be incorporated to ensure best practices.

By signing this policy, staff, volunteers, and parents/carers agree to adhere to the principles and procedures outlined to ensure the safety and well-being of all children attending our baby sensory classes.

Date of Implementation: 01-01-2025

Next Review Date: 01-01-2026

Signed by: Jane Wheelan Designated Safeguarding Lead