

September 2024

Dear Parent or Guardian

Child Protection Regulations

This letter is for all parents using registered childcare in East Sussex. It is for information only.

As you may know, the valuable services offered by childcare providers for children under 8 years are subject to regulation by Ofsted. The purpose of regulation is to protect children, provide reassurance to parents and guardians and to ensure that the services meet specified standards. When a childcare provider meets the standards, they can register. Ofsted inspectors continue to carry out inspections following registration.

Your provider of childcare has given a commitment for the safety and protection of children. and they are expected to make their individual policies and procedures clear to you. This includes their policies and procedures for Child Protection and for dealing with concerns and complaints from parents.

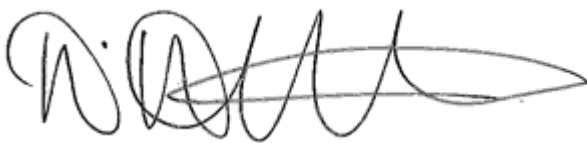
A registered childcare provider has a legal duty to follow the Child Protection Procedures which have been drawn up by the East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership. A copy of these procedures can be found online at [Welcome to your Pan Sussex Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures Manual | Sussex Child Protection](#)

[and Safeguarding Procedures Manual](#). Under these procedures, childcare providers must report any suspicions they have that a child may have suffered, is suffering, or is at risk of suffering significant harm to the County Council's Children's Social Care department. It is then the responsibility of Children's Social Care staff to decide what action, if any, needs to be taken.

Such situations are always distressing but nevertheless the law is clear that the welfare of children is the paramount concern. The Sussex Procedures state that in the event of an inquiry, parents will be afforded the right to honesty, full information as appropriate and the opportunity to express their views and challenge actions.

If you require further guidance about any aspect of the responsibilities of registered providers, please contact the Early Years Team, Education Department on 01323 463026 and ask for the Early Years Support and Intervention Officer for your area.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Davis', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Donna Davis, LADO Safeguarding Unit

Reviewed September 2023