

Safeguarding Policy 0-2 years Provision



1. Statement of Intent

At Childhaven Nursery we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children, with particular regard to the vulnerability of babies and children aged 0–2 years.

We follow guidance from the [Early Years Foundation Stage \(EYFS\) statutory framework](#) and work in line with local safeguarding procedures.

We aim to:

- Provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment
- Ensure all children are protected from harm
- Promote strong, trusting relationships through the key person system
- Work in partnership with parents and professionals

2. Roles & Responsibilities

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is responsible for:

- Managing safeguarding concerns
- Liaising with external agencies
- Supporting staff knowledge and training
- Ensuring policies are up to date

All staff:

- Have a duty to safeguard children
- Must report concerns immediately
- Attend regular safeguarding training
- Safer Recruitment

3. Safeguarding Babies and Young Children (0–2 Years)

We recognise that babies are particularly vulnerable as they:

- Are non-verbal or have limited communication – we follow our Non-Mobile Baby Policy
- Are dependent on adults for care
- May not show obvious signs of abuse

Staff are trained to notice:

- Changes in behaviour, feeding or sleep
- Unexplained marks or bruising
- Withdrawal, distress or excessive crying

4. Key Person Approach

Each child is assigned a key person who:

- Builds a secure attachment
- Understands the child's routines and needs
- Acts as the main contact for parents

This supports emotional wellbeing and helps identify any safeguarding concerns early.

5. Nappy Changing & Intimate Care

- Children's dignity is respected at all times
- Changing areas are safe and hygienic
- Staff follow clear procedures and supervision guidance

6. Safe Care Practices (0–2 Specific)updated 01/09/26

Safer Sleep Requirements

We aim to promote safe and developmentally appropriate sleep practices for all children in our care. We are committed to ensuring children's physical safety, emotional well-being, and respect for their individual sleep needs.

Safe Sleep Environment

We adhere to established safe sleep guidelines:

- Babies aged 12 months and under will only be placed to sleep in a cot which comply with British Safety Standards
- Always placing babies on their backs to sleep unless medically advised otherwise. Feet will be at the foot of the cot if blankets are used.
- Using firm, flat mattresses without loose bedding, pillows, or toys in cots. Bedding will be lightweight and firmly tucked in around the child no higher than their shoulders.
- Ensuring sleep areas are well-ventilated, the correct temperature, between 16-20 °C, and monitored regularly.

- Children's heads will not be covered.
- No child will be placed to sleep in a buggy or pram

Monitoring and Supervision

- Babies under the age of six months will have an adult with them in the room for every sleep.
- Children will always be in sight and hearing of an adult when sleeping.
- Sleeping children will have someone with them all the time and will be regularly checked (every 10 minutes or as appropriate). A sleep monitor may be used on occasion for this.
- Staff will record sleep times and observations to ensure accurate communication with families.

Parental Collaboration

- Sleep routines and preferences will be discussed with parents/carers during enrolment and regularly reviewed.
- We support continuity between home and nursery routines wherever safe and practical.

Staff Training

All staff involved in sleep supervision are trained in:

- Safe sleep practices (including SIDS prevention).
- Recognising individual sleep needs and cues.
- Responding sensitively and respectfully to children during rest times.

Safe bedding

We check that the following items meet the relevant British Safety Standards: • cots, travel cots, Moses baskets and carry cots: BS EN 716-1:2017, BS EN 1466:2014 or ^[1]_{SEP} BS EN 1466:2023 • bedside cribs: Since 2020, all bedside cribs should meet the new crib safety standard BS EN 1130:2019. This means cots should no longer have a side that fully drops down. • mattresses: BS 7177:2008+A1:2011 • mattresses for cots, travel cots and cribs: BS EN 16890:2017+A1:2021 • sleep bags: BS EN 16781:2018. Sleeping children are never left unsupervised

Source: [Safer Sleep](#) article from Department of Education in collaboration with [The Lullaby Trust](#)

Safer Eating Requirements

In line with the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework 2026, we have a duty to ensure that children are provided with safe, healthy and age-appropriate food and drink, and that staff take all reasonable steps to prevent accidents, choking, allergic reactions and other food-related harm. This applies to all staff, students, volunteers and visitors involved in food preparation, serving or supervision of children during meals and snacks.

We aim to:

- Safeguard children by minimising risks associated with eating and drinking.
- Promote safe eating habits that are developmentally appropriate for each child.
- Ensure that all dietary requirements, allergies and cultural or religious needs are identified, recorded and strictly adhered to.
- Create calm, positive mealtime experiences that support children's physical development and emotional wellbeing.
- Ensure staff are knowledgeable, vigilant and confident in responding to eating-related risks, including choking and allergic reactions.
- Work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure consistency and safety.

How We Will Achieve This

Risk Assessment and Environment

- All staff are paediatric first aid and a nominated staff member is responsible for checking the safety of food and drinks offered to children. These measures aim to ensure that children's eating experiences are safe, and their dietary needs are met
- Mealtimes and snack times are risk assessed regularly
- Children are always seated appropriately when eating and are supervised by staff at all times
- We use low highchairs and chairs and appropriate tables to eat safely whilst sat. The children are familiar with the location of the eating area and there are minimal distractions

- Food is prepared and served in line with food hygiene standards
- Cutlery, crockery and seating are suitable for the age and stage of development of the children Safe Food Preparation and Serving
- Staff follow clear [EYFS Food Safety guidance](#) on food preparation, serving and safety. We prepare all food in accordance with this.
- Foods known to present a higher choking risk are avoided or adapted appropriately
- Hot food and drinks are allowed to cool before serving and are never accessible to children unsupervised

Allergies and Dietary Requirements

- All allergies, intolerances and dietary requirements are obtained from parents on admission and updated regularly.
- Allergy information is clearly displayed in every room for staff (while maintaining confidentiality)
- Staff accessing the kitchen to prepare food have Food Hygiene Level 2
- Measures are in place to prevent cross-contamination
- Staff are trained to recognise and respond to allergic reactions, including the use of emergency medication such as EpiPens where applicable
- Each child with an allergy will have the appropriately completed [BSACI allergy action plan](#)

Supervision and Staff Practice

- Staff sit facing the children during meals and snacks to actively supervise and support safe eating and choking risks.
- All staff are Paediatric First Aid trained.
- One person in each room is responsible for ensuring that the food served meets the requirements for each child
- Children are encouraged to eat at their own pace and are never rushed or forced to eat
- Staff model positive and safe eating behaviours
- Children learn that they must stay at the table whilst eating and must not walk around

Training and Awareness

- All staff receive safeguarding training that includes safer eating and choking risks.
- Paediatric First Aid training is maintained, including responding to choking incidents
- New staff, students and volunteers are inducted into safer eating procedures before working with children.
- Parents and all staff are directed to find out more information about [Food Allergies \(NHS\)](#) and treatment of [Anaphylaxis](#)
- Staff are aware of the differences between [Food Allergies](#) and [Food Intolerances](#)
- Staff are aware that any choking incident must be recorded and reported with parents being notified.

Partnership with Parents and Carers

- Food is discussed with parents at the Welcome Meeting, any allergies, intolerances or dietary needs are discussed with allergies possibly necessitating a separate meeting with the manager, key person and room leader
- Any concerns or incidents related to eating are communicated promptly and recorded appropriately
- Once a term, we contact all parents whose children have an entry on the allergy list and ask them to give any necessary updates.

Babies

- We ask parents of babies for information relating to where they are in their weaning journey consistency of their food and what foods they have already tried before starting with us
- Individual feeding routines are followed and are carefully considered on the child's developmental stage and not by age.
- We ask for regular updates and monitor carefully as allergies can start at any time under the age of one year.
- We signpost to [Baby Weaning NHS](#) information Monitoring and Review.
- Any eating-related incidents are recorded and reviewed to inform practice.

- This is reviewed regularly, or sooner if guidance or legislation changes This should be read alongside our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, Health and Safety Policy and Food and Nutrition policy.

Screen Time Guidelines:

- Children under **2 years** will **not be exposed to screen time**, except for occasional interactive use (e.g. video calls with family), in line with current UK guidance.

Alignment with EYFS 2026 Guidance

- Screen use will **not replace active play, social interaction, or outdoor experiences**, which remain the priority.

This supports EYFS principles by promoting:

- Active learning and play
- Strong relationships and interaction
- Children's health and well-being

7. Supervision

- Children are supervised at all times
- Staff ratios meet EYFS requirements (1:3 for under 2s)
- Staff deployment ensures safety across the room

8. Recognising and Responding to Concerns

If a concern is identified

- It is recorded immediately
- Reported to the DSL without delay
- The DSL decides next steps

We will:

- Listen to children (through behaviour and cues)
- Not ask leading questions
- Keep accurate, confidential records

9. Allegations Against Staff

Any concerns about staff:

- Must be reported to the DSL or Phase Lead 0-2 provision immediately
- Will be referred to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)
- Will be handled confidentially and professionally

10. Safer Recruitment

We ensure:

- All staff have enhanced DBS checks
- References are obtained
- Staff are suitable to work with children

11. Mobile Phones & Cameras

- Personal mobile phones are not used in care areas
- Nursery devices are used appropriately
- Photos are taken in line with parental consent

12. Collection of Children

- Children are only released to authorised adults by a member of staff from the under 2's team.
- Password systems are used
- Any concerns are reported immediately

13. Confidentiality

All safeguarding information is:

- Kept secure and confidential
- Shared only on a need-to-know basis
- Stored in line with GDPR

14. Working with Parents

We:

- Build open and honest relationships
- Share concerns where appropriate
- Always prioritise the child's safety

15. Training

All staff:

- Receive safeguarding training
- Understand signs of abuse in babies
- Know reporting procedures

16. Monitoring & Review

This policy is:

- Reviewed annually
- Updated in line with legislation
- Shared with staff and parents

Date policy was put in place April 2026

by Marianne Perry Phase lead 0-2 provision

This policy is due for review before April 2027

****Updated statutory requirements This guidance supports updates to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) statutory framework, which apply From 1st September 2026.**



National Nurturing
School Award
2025

