



Safeguarding statement for parents and carers

Last review: August 2024 Next review: August 2025

This is a public document

Mud Pie Explorers is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects everyone to share this commitment. Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as;

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's mental and physical health or development
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

Our responsibilities

As an organisation working with children we have a lawful duty to safeguard the welfare of children. We have in place robust safeguarding policies and procedures to support and provide information about how and what action we will take when there are concerns about a child. Concerns will be brought to the attention of Lucy Lucas (Designated Safeguarding Lead), who will decide upon the necessity for a referral to children's social care.

The settings Designated Safeguarding Lead is Lucy Lucas for South Glos and Bristol. Our deputy DSL is Colleen Gough.

Family support

We understand that parenting at any stage can be a challenge. Mud Pie Explorers will work in partnership with parents and carers who may be affected by difficulties that could be adversely affecting the wellbeing of the child. This can include providing parents and carers with information, advice, and resources as well as signposting to family support services.

Information sharing

Mud Pie Explorers will be proactive in sharing information as early as possible to help identify, assess and respond to risks or concerns about the safety and welfare of

children, whether this is when problems are first emerging, or where a child is already known to children's social care.

The setting's DSL will discuss child protection concerns with parents and carers before referring to other agencies, however, there may be occasions when Mud Pie Explorers may need to contact another agency such as First Response or the Access and Response Team before informing parents and carers. The Data Protection Act 2018 and UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR) do not prevent the sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children safe.


Transfer of safeguarding records

To promote a child's welfare and thus their educational needs, records relating to concerns about children will be passed on to their educational setting. Records will be transferred safely and securely.

If you have any concerns about your child, or another child at Mud Pie Explorers please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead for your area:

- Colleen Gouth (colleen@mud-pies.co.uk) for Newport
- Clare Haughton (clare@mud-pies.co.uk) for South Gloucestershire and Bristol

Mud Pie Explorers child protection policy explains the types of harm and abuse that children may face and the actions we will take to safeguard children. Our child protection policy is available to read here:

 [Child Protection And Safeguarding policy and procedures.docx](#) . Alternatively, please contact us for a copy of our child protection policy and any other related policies.