

DERBY COLLEGE GROUP

POLICY



Little Explorers Nursery

Safeguarding Policy

Policy Number:	STS-011
Executive Owner:	Deputy CEO
Owning Strategy / Department:	Safeguarding
Approval Board / Committee / Group:	Corporation
User Group:	Employees, Parents/Guardians, Visitors, Contractors
Relevant To:	All persons encountering Little Explorers Nursery
Implementation Date:	September 2026
Approval Date:	17 September 2026
Review Period Start date:	August 2027
Expiry Date (Next Review Date):	September 2027

Date:	September 2026
Originator:	Director of Health and Safety (DSL)
Area:	Safeguarding

POLICY – PROCEDURES – GUIDELINES – RELATED DOCUMENTS

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Policy Accountability and Implementation

Policy Title:	Little Explorers Nursery Safeguarding Policy
Policy Author / Reviewers:	Director of Health and Safety (DSL), Nursery Operations Manager (DDSL)
Policy Implementation:	Nursery Operations Manager, all DCG employees encountering Little Explorers Nursery
Policy Monitoring and Compliance:	DCG Safeguarding Operational Group
Policy Review Timeline:	This policy will be reviewed annually

Synopsis:

Children have the right to be treated with respect and to be safe from any form of abuse. Little Explorers Nursery will work with children, parents/guardians and external agencies to ensure the welfare and safety of children. Little Explorers Nursery fully accepts the responsibility to follow the Derbyshire Children's Safeguarding Board Procedures and the statutory requirements for Early Years Foundation Stage to safeguarding children.

Policy Classification and Publication

Classification

- Essential Authority (EA)

Publication

- Intranet – Policy portal

Empowering/related legislative and/or authoritative references:

Working together to safeguarding children (2026); Childcare Act 2006; Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage; Keeping Children Safe in Education (2026)

Impact Assessment reference:

Periodic Policy Review / Change History

Note: Please make it clear if change/review relates to procedures, guidelines and associated documents only or it is a rational for a new or substantive policy review

Version	Reviewed / Modified by:	Change History	Advisory committee / groups or specialists	Review / Meeting Date/
V5	Environmental Compliance Manager (ECM)	Senior Designated Person job title changed to Designated Safeguarding Lead in line with Keeping children safe in education	Safeguarding Board	17.06.2016
	ECM	Inclusion of Early Help Process and other forms of abuse	Safeguarding Board	17.06.2016
V6	ECM	Minor amendments to titles	Safeguarding Board	21.10.2016
V7	ECM	Deputy Principal Education & Learner Experience is now the Nominated Person for Little Explorers Nursery The Nursery Operations Manager is now the Co-ordinator for Little Explorers Nursery	Safeguarding Board	24.02.2017
V8	ECM	Minor amendments to titles	Safeguarding Board	10.11.2017
V9	ECM/Nursery Operations Manager	Removal of the requirement for employees of Derby College working within Little Explorers Nursery to sign the Disqualification by Association form in line with the changes to Regulation 9 of the Childcare (Disqualification) and Childcare (Early Years Provision Free of Charge) (Extended Entitlement) (Amendment) Regulations 2018	Safeguarding Board	01.08.2018
V10	Director of Services for Students/Nurse ry Operations Manager	Changed review date to September to coincide with the annual publication of the revised Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) Added updated reference to KCSIE 2019 version	Safeguarding Board	28.06.2019
V11	Director of Services for Students/Nurse ry Operations Manager	No major amends; Added updated reference to KCSIE 2020 version	Safeguarding Board Corporation	05/10/20 14/12/20
V12	Director of Services for Students/Nurse ry Operations Manager	No major amends; Added updated reference to KCSIE 2021 version	Safeguarding Board	10/11/2021
V13	Director of Services for	No major amends; Added updated reference to KCSIE 2022 version	Safeguarding Board	29/09/2022

Version	Reviewed / Modified by:	Change History	Advisory committee / groups or specialists	Review / Meeting Date/
	Students/Nurse ry Operations Manager			
V14	Director of Services for Students/Nurse ry Operations Manager	No major amends; Added updated reference to KCSIE 2023 version	SLT Safeguarding Group Corporation	01/07/2023 23/10/2023
V15	Director of Health and Safety (DSL)	No major amends; Added updated reference to KCSIE 2024 version	Safeguarding Operational Group Curriculum Performance Committee SLT Safeguarding Group Corporation	18/09/2024 25/09/2024 03/10/2024 21/10/2024
V16	Director of Health and Safety (DSL)	No major amends; Added updated reference to KCSIE 2025 version Included - Body Map Form	Safeguarding Operational Group Safeguarding Leadership Meeting Corporation	15/09/2025 22/09/2025 Due: 22/10/2025
V17	Director of Health and Safety (DSL)	Annual review completed in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education 2026, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026 and the EYFS Statutory Framework 2026. Updated safeguarding definitions, legislative references and terminology. Enhanced guidance relating to abuse, exploitation, child-on-child abuse, online safety, Prevent, FGM, FII and Early Help. Reviewed safeguarding roles, responsibilities, contacts and referral pathways.	Safeguarding Leadership Meeting Corporation	17/09/2026 19/10/2026

Version	Reviewed / Modified by:	Change History	Advisory committee / groups or specialists	Review / Meeting Date/
		Improved document structure, consistency, accessibility and supporting references across the Policy, Procedures and Guidelines.		

1. Policy Statement

Children have the right to be treated with respect and to be safe from any form of abuse. Little Explorers Nursery will work with children, parents/guardians and external agencies to ensure the welfare and safety of children.

Little Explorers Nursery fully accepts the responsibility to follow the Derby and Derbyshire Children's Safeguarding Partnership Procedures and the statutory requirements of Early Years Foundation Stage to Safeguarding Children.

In all cases of concerns about a child's welfare the concerns will be reported to the appropriate Children's Social Care team.

2. Definitions

A child is defined as any person under the age of 18 years.

3. Principles

This policy and supporting guidelines and procedures are based upon the principles of having simple, easy to follow processes that empower people to make disclosures which are dealt with in a structured, professional manner.

4. Scope and Limitations

This policy applies to Little Explorers Nursery and is underpinned by Derby College Group (DCG)'s Safeguarding Policy and supporting procedures, which should be read in conjunction with this Policy and supporting procedures.

5. Responsibilities

The roles and responsibilities of employees are clearly identified with the Safeguarding Procedures.

The Director of Health and Safety is DCG's Designated Safeguarding Lead and Little Explorers Safeguarding Nominee and is responsible for the development and ongoing review of the policy.

The Nursery Operations Manager is the Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and Safeguarding Co-ordinator for Little Explorers Nursery and is responsible for the day-to-day operations.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead, Senior Leadership Team, Nursery Management Team and Safeguarding Officers are responsible for the delivery of the Safeguarding Procedures.

6. Implementation Arrangements

The roles and responsibilities of staff in implementation of this policy are set out clearly in the Little Explorers Nursery Safeguarding Procedures.

All new employees are made aware of the Policy, Procedures and Guidelines during the formal new starter induction process. Updated and amended policies and procedures are disseminated and reinforced in training sessions, team meetings, newsletters and via email communications.

7. Monitoring and Review

The Safeguarding Leadership Meeting and Safeguarding Operational Group will monitor the effectiveness of the safeguarding policies and procedures implemented with DCG to ensure legal compliance.

To facilitate this, managers at all levels are responsible for the ongoing local monitoring of compliance.

The Little Explorers Nursery Safeguarding Policy and supporting procedures are subject to an annual review, unless there are changes in legislation or management arrangements. This review will consider the views of employees and relevant local and national documents. DCG reserves the right to make whatever changes it deems appropriate.

An updated copy of the Policy, Procedures and Guidelines are available from the Nursery Operations Manager.

8. Guidelines

The [Little Explorers Nursery Safeguarding Guideline](#) provides additional information about the following:

- General Guidance
- Key Contact Information
- Categories of abuse:
 - Abuse
 - Physical Abuse
 - Emotional Abuse
 - Sexual Abuse
 - Neglect
 - Exploitation
- Other forms of abuse
 - Domestic Violence
 - Online Safety
 - Extremism and Radicalisation
 - Female Genital Mutilation
 - Fabricated or induced illness
- Early/FamilyHelp Process

9. Procedures

The [Little Explorers Nursery Safeguarding Procedure](#) sets out the framework for the safeguarding within Little Explorers and provide details on the following:

- Overview
 - Related Legislation
 - Allegations against an employee or volunteer
- Responsibilities

10. Templates / Forms

[Safeguarding form - SG1](#)

[Safeguarding form - SG2](#)

11. Related Documents

This Policy does not stand alone and should be used in conjunction with other policies, procedures and guidance.

DCG Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Guidelines

Health, Safety & Welfare at Work Policy

Health & Safety Risk Assessment Policy

Employee Code of Conduct

Employee Disciplinary Policy

Employee Recruitment & Selection Policy

Bullying & Harassment Policy

Public Interest Disclosure Policy (Whistleblowing)

E-Safety Policy

Derbyshire Safeguarding Board Procedures

Applying to waive disqualification: early years and childcare providers (Ofsted)

Keeping Children Safe in Education

Working together to safeguard children

Early years foundation stage statutory framework

Childcare Act

Disqualification under the Childcare Act