



General Welfare Requirement: Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare
The provider must take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children

Safeguarding children

Online safety

Children are naturally curious to understand the world around them and technology is a growing resource that they are exposed to. It is our responsibility to ensure they know how to use it correctly and how to keep themselves safe.
Cherry Blossom Nursery and Preschool understands this and plays an essential role in helping young children learn the foundations of safe online behaviour.

Procedures

- Staff ensure all devices eg tablets have filters on them.
- Staff check apps, websites and search results before using them with children.
- Children do not access the Internet unsupervised eg If researching a topic it is always adult led.
 - Staff monitor closely and children take turns with the use of timers.
- Staff discuss with children the importance of selecting and using technology for particular purposes.
- Staff role model safe behaviour and privacy awareness.eg they may ask permission to take photographs of children for their learning journeys and equally the children will be encouraged to ask permission from each other too.
 - Staff talk about safe use of technology as age appropriate.
 - At home visits we discuss how technology is used within the home.
- Staff observe children and follow safeguarding procedures if they are concerned about a child's behaviour.
 - Staff use appropriate teaching methods to include parents in online safety.
- Staff must use this policy alongside our 'family' policy which is an nursery management app used within the setting to log, monitor and track childrens attendance, learning and development and communications between nursery and parent/carers.

Staff are aware of risks posed to children within the community

- Seeing inappropriate images
 - Cyberbullying
- Being contacted and manipulated by an adult for sexual purposes - grooming
 - Sharing personal and identifying information with strangers
 - Being radicalised
 - Imitating inappropriate behaviour
- Online behaviours of siblings and parents

- Neglect due to parents failing to safeguard them online

Information for Staff

Using social media can have risks for Early Years Educators/ Early Years Staff
The boundaries between the online and offline world are easily blurred and this can have potentially serious consequences for professionals.

Staff should ...

- Make sure they read and understand the policies and procedures fully.
- Ensure they follow the guidance eg not sharing photos without consent or using own devices to share content on behalf of the setting.
- Make sure they understand policy and procedures regarding using work provided devices.
 - If unsure about any policy or procedure staff need to contact DSL
- Staff should be aware that content posted online can be copied, shared or misinterpreted and can be potentially public/permanent. This can have a negative and positive effect.
- Staff should be positive and professional online and should uphold reputation of their setting.
- Disciplinary or legal action could be taken if something was posted online which brought the profession or setting into disrepute.
- Staff to check with themselves when posting picture or comments online, "would I say or do this in a face to face situation, it is appropriate."
 - Friends and family need to be aware of online reputations. It is important that they understand what photos can/can't be posted on social media.
- Staff should not add parents of children from our setting as friends online; this can blur professional relationships and put staff at risk of allegations. If there is a pre-existing friendship a discussion needs to take place with DSL.
- Staff should not give out personal contact details to children/parents attending setting. Professional communication should always be through work email/phone number.
- If staff concerned about anything seen on social media eg a comment made by a parent, this should be reported to DSL
 - If staff concerned about content posted by a colleague - the settings allegations procedures should be followed.

If staff concerned about a child online they should follow child protection procedures.

Please note that if you are aware of indecent images of a child, do not print, forward, save or share these images it is illegal.

With any concern it is important to follow the procedures but if in doubt always speak to DSL.

IT IS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN

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