



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN STATEMENT

**Child Protection is everyone's responsibility,
together we can work towards safeguarding children.**

At Hillfields Children's Centre and Nursery School we recognise that parent/carers want what is best for their children. However, we acknowledge that bringing up children is not always easy. Therefore, by providing advice and guidance, the Children's Centre aims to enable families to look after their children safely and enjoy a positive family life.

All staff at Hillfields have received training in keeping children safe and have a duty to follow Coventry Safeguarding Children procedures if they learn about risks to a child because of abuse or neglect.

If any member of staff sees that a child has a bruise or an injury we would ask the parent/carers how this happened. If you know that your child has hurt themselves or is upset, then please let us know. If a member of staff remains concerned for the child's welfare after talking to their parent/carers, they have a duty to discuss these concerns with the Duty Social Worker at Coventry's Children's Services Department.

Whenever possible, parent/carers will be advised before we speak to Children's Services. However, the child's welfare is our first priority therefore, in some situations, discussions may take place with Children's Services before parent/carers are advised.

All of us believe that children should not be smacked, sworn at, insulted, or humiliated. We will seek to work with families to find alternative ways of dealing with difficult situations. We acknowledge that bringing up a young family is a most demanding and stressful task, but at the same time we consider that it can be what gives all of us our greatest reward, pleasure, delight and satisfaction.

Every child has the right to protection from abuse and neglect. All staff recognise that child protection issues are sensitive and cause anxiety to those concerned. We will do all we can to help and support the family through this stressful time, and afterwards, whatever the outcome.