

This module has been a very productive one on a personal level as well as my role as a nursery assistant . Before I started my role as a nursery assistant I would not have known much about safeguarding and what and who were involved. From my personal experience I have never been in a position to have to proceed with a safeguarding issue but within my nursery we have a list with all jobs of staff and our safeguarding manager that we would report any issues is our manager . Also on this list we have the ChildLine Wales in the event we do not believe our safeguarding issue has not been dealt with correctly and you believe the child is still at risk . In our nursery we have a password policy , so when the child first attends parents will be asked to create a password if any family members or friends are due to pick up and have not picked up before . On pick up they will be asked a password and if they know it they are then allowed to pick up and if they are not sure on the password , parents will then be contacted and pick up will be on hold until they have the correct password. We also run a policy that no one under the age of 16 can pick up or drop off siblings , typically because at the age of 16 a child is more likely to be more mature around roads, care of their sibling as being under the age of 16 and having the responsibility of caring for a young sibling is a very big responsibility.

In our setting we also run a kids club for children in school aged between four and twelve. In our kids club we have a policy of no devices that have internet access, this is purely to make sure that children are safe in the environment.

For safeguarding we use the acronym PENS (Physical,Emotional,Neglect and Sexual) which is used to ensure everyone in our setting remembers the different categories of abuse that should be considered when safeguarding children. Signs of physical abuse would be unusual marks , bruises in areas that would not usually have bruises , any injury that looks unusual. Emotional abuse includes actions or words that would upset a child using as an example if a child came to me and said mummy keeps saying shouting me and calling me stupid would be a raise for concern especially if the child is upset whilst confidentially telling me . Neglect for me is the biggest raise of concern for safeguarding it includes many factors that are key for a child's health , wellbeing and development. Neglect is a failure to meet the child's basic needs . Maslow's hierarchy of needs(1942) shows what essentials children need to be able to develop . There are various factors that can be linked to neglect, the biggest sign for me as a nursery nurse would be personal hygiene . Lastly is Sexual abuse which is were a child does not offer consent to physical contact or exploitation .

Throughout this module I have learnt more about the 5 R's of safeguarding and it given me a broader knowledge of the framework that is considered when there is a safeguarding issue with a child within our setting . The first stage is Recognising which involves myself as a nursery assistant to the awareness of signs and indicators and take into considerations of PENS . Secondly is the practitioners response which is when an issue occurs it is important to take the correct and appropriate response. This may involve talking to the child , offering support and could also be asking for support of the settings safeguarding officer . Report is the

next stage where if there is any suspected reasonable grounds for concerns of the child's safety , it is always essential to report any concerns to the settings safeguarding officer and if you feel like they have not dealt with the issue correctly then take it to other organisations such as the police or social services. If there are any concerns about a child it should always be recorded as it will build up a stronger case to be able to pass onto any organisations that will need evidence to go with any concerns that have been raised. Ensuring all records are dated with correct dates and also times is also key. In our setting we have observation books for different rooms so if there was an incident in a particular room then we could use them books as evidence . Something so simple as making sure that notes are written down in pen rather than pencil will help so that nothing can be scribble out or changed. All records of an issues should be factual and include everything that shows concerns for the child's safety . Also if anyone else in the room had witnessed an event of an issue in safeguarding there name should be included in any documentation. Lastly is to refer the issue to the necessary organisations to offer the child or family additional support , these organisations could be social services , domestic violence support or intervention to prevent the case going forward.

Overall I have really enjoyed this module and feel confident that I am able to confidentially identify any issues of safeguarding within my setting . After learning in depth about the 5 R's I feel like if i ever had to deal with a safeguarding issue I would do the relevant procedures to the highest standard and if I felt like my safeguarding manager in my setting was not dealing with my concern correctly I would know who to contact .