

Part 1

Prior to the module, I've had to have an understanding and awareness of safeguarding because, in addition to working with children in a learning setting, our role as teaching assistants in a school is to ensure their safety by reporting any incidents or of any communications with family members or caregivers that raise concerns to the lead role manager or safeguarding officer. We then follow the procedures to record the concern by logging on the system class chats and then making sure the evidence information that is recorded is accurate and word for word conversations. According to NSPCC (2025) you can more effectively comprehend your safeguarding responsibilities and protect children by using the 4Rs of safeguarding and child protection.

For the purposes of this guidance, safeguarding and advancing the welfare of children is defined as preventing abuse of children, preventing harm to children's growth or mental and physical health and making certain that children are raised in environments that connect with the availability of safe and effective care and taking steps to enable all children to have the best outcomes in life. According to The Knowledge Academy (2023) the first and most important step in safeguarding is recognition and then react correctly after identifying indications of abuse or harm.

I have experienced a safeguarding incident in my setting as we have had two children that came to school every day and they both showed signs of neglect, such as unclean clothes, no drink bottles, and constant hunger and food requests. Also signs of emotional abuse such as, be overly affectionate toward strangers or people they haven't known for a long time being, not seeming to have a close relationship with their parents, such as when they are being picked up or dropped off at nursery, lack of confidence and becoming nervous or wary and unable to play, or acting unkindly or aggressively toward other children in the class. In addition to record my concerns I log on the online system provision maps for proof, as part of our policies and procedures in my workplace. In doing this I ensure the accurate recording of the logs, word for word conversations. Furthermore I also report the matter to the lead role manager, who acts as the safeguarding officer. I also make sure that I don't ask any questions to make the child feel uncomfortable, but I tell the child if they do disclose something that I cannot promise to keep it a secret. The Knowledge

Academy (2023) suggest that concerns about abuse must be reported to the proper authorities by professionals, caregivers, and anyone else who witnesses or suspect's abuse. Accurate and timely reporting guarantees prompt intervention, which may stop additional harm.

Records from our time revealed numerous issues, which strengthened the case for taking action. The Knowledge Academy (2023) suggest Information recording is essential to keeping an accurate and thorough record of safeguarding issues and responses and any follow-up inquiries or court lawsuits.

According to OFSTED (2021) working together to safeguard children defines safeguarding children as, preventing abuse of children, preventing harm to children's health or development, making sure they are growing up in environments that support the delivery of safe and efficient care, and taking steps to ensure that every child has the most beneficial results.

According to UNICEF (2022) Article 19 (defence against abuse, neglect, and violence) the protection of children from all types of violence, abuse, neglect, and maltreatment by their parents or other caregivers must be the first priority for governments.

Anyone who works with children should see them, talk to them, listen to what they have to say, consider their opinions carefully, and collaborate with them and their families to determine how best to meet their needs.

As already stated above and supported by all Wales safeguarding procedures, and completing my safeguarding course, I agree everyone has a responsibility for any safeguarding-related issues, including reporting incidents and concerns to the lead role manager and safeguard officer even without documentation to support your claims as it is better to say and be wrong than harm be risked to children. The appropriate people can then address the issues and make the decision on what appropriate action is best to take.

Although parents and caregivers are ultimately responsible for their children's care, local authorities have a unique responsibility to protect and advance the welfare of all local children by working with other organisations and agencies.

When contacting effective services, local organisations and agencies should have a comprehensive awareness of the needs of children in the area, gathering information practitioners in order to arrange support around the needs of individual children.

According to UNICEF (2022) Article 3: The child's best interests in all decisions and actions involving children, the child's best interests must come first.

It is the duty of all those who work with children to ensure their safety. No single practitioner can fully understand a child's needs and circumstances, and everyone who interacts with them has a responsibility to identify issues, exchange information, and act quickly if children and families are to receive the right support at the right time.

NCVO (2021) suggests that keeping in mind that people don't have to be certain before speaking up. The person in charge of safeguarding should always be contacted if someone in your organisation has concerns about someone.

Reference List

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