

Safe and Respectful Care

The safe and respectful care policy may complement the Nappy Changing and Intimate Care Policy.

EYFS: 3.1, 3.6

At Wood St Nursery we believe that all children have the right to feel safe, secure and happy. This involves nursery staff being responsive to children's needs, whilst maintaining professionalism.

To promote good practice and to minimise the risk of misunderstanding or allegations we have the following guidelines:

Although we recognise it is appropriate to be warm and affectionate with children, we help staff to recognise the importance of being responsive to children's need and cues, and not their own. When comforting children, staff are advised to always be in view of other practitioners and children whenever possible. We recognise that there may be occasions where it is appropriate to be in a quiet space away from others, such as when a child is ill. In these circumstances, staff are advised to leave doors open. It is the duty of all staff and the manager to ensure that children are appropriately comforted and to monitor practice.

Staff at Wood St Nursery-

- leave the bathroom door open when changing children's nappies or soiled/wet clothing
- discourage inappropriate behaviour such as over-tickling, overly boisterous play (including allowing children to climb on you), or inappropriate questions (such as asking children if they love you), and we advise staff to report any such observed practice
- are respectful of each other and the children and families in the nursery and do not use inappropriate language or behaviour, including during breaks
- are aware of the whistleblowing procedures

The manager carries out random checks throughout the day to ensure safe practices.

If a parent or member of staff has concerns or questions about safe care and practice procedures, or behaviour they consider as inappropriate, including between staff members, they are urged to see the manager at the earliest opportunity. Management will challenge inappropriate behaviour in line with the supervision/disciplinary or whistleblowing procedures. If the concern relates to the manager and/or nursery owner then parents should contact Ofsted or the local authority LADO team. Please see the whistle blowing policy for more details.