

This unit is about protecting and preventing children from abuse.

- Protection refers to guarding children who have been abused.
- Prevention refers to stopping children from being abused.

There are Laws that give the children the right to be safe from any form of harm or abuse.

These Laws are also referred to as Legislations or Acts that have to be observed by parents, child minders, practitioners, teachers, other organisation working with children and the general public.

The table below outlines the Legislations and policies that safeguard children.

Legislation	Aim	Give example of how the legislations are applied in your setting to safeguard children.
Children Act 1989	<p>Every setting must have safeguarding policy and procedures for staff to follow. Children's welfare is of the utmost importance</p> <p>Work in partnership with local and national agencies to promote the well-being of all children</p>	?
Children Act 2004	<p>Ensure that every setting including care, educational, NHS, social services and the police work together to safeguard and promote children's well-being.</p> <p>Reduce levels of educational failure, ill health, substance abuse, crime and anti-social behaviour.</p>	?
Childcare Act 2006 & Working Together to Safeguard Children 2006	<p>Ensure that local authorities, NHS and job centre work together to improve the outcomes of all children up to 5. (promote welfare of children.</p> <p>Provide high quality education and care for all children from birth to age 5.</p>	?
Every Child Matters (ECM)	<p>Ensure children and young people have the chance to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and experience economic well-being.</p>	?

Forms of abuse

The table below shows the various forms of abuse and how to recognise them. The table also shows how abuse affects children in the short-term and long-term. The last column outlines the practical support that is available to victims of abuse.

Type of abuse	Examples	Signs & Symptoms	Behaviour	Consequences / support
Physical	Punching, slapping, pushing, kicking or pinching.	Burns, Bite marks, Bruises Fractures Unexplained weight loss.	Withdrawn and quiet. Aggressive towards other children. Shows aggressive acts during role play scenes.	Long term withdrawal Lack confidence Poor social life Counselling in person
Emotional	Ignoring. Constantly criticising or belittling. Blaming. Threats of harm. Yelling and swearing frequently. Name calling. Bullying.	Fear, depression or loss of sleep. Low self-esteem Lack of confidence and anxiety. Increased levels of confusion.	Attention seeking behaviour. Seeking affection and being clingy. Difficulty in socialising with other children. Tell lies. Sucks thumb, rocks to and fro and plays with own hair. Withdrawn behaviour	Difficulty in forming relationships with people Lonely and isolated from the community Join support groups
Neglect	Deprived of food and water.	Malnutrition underweight Dirty clothing/bedding Lack of personal care. Untreated medical problems	Parents rarely present in dropping and collecting children from nursery. Older siblings caring for their younger siblings. Children mention they are unsupervised at home.	Stunted physical development chronic illnesses Learning delays Medical and special education support
Sexual	Touching or being intimate.	Bruises or scratches Difficulty walking or sitting. Soreness around the genitals Itching or pain in genital area. Discharge from genital area. Torn, stained or bloody underwear.	Sucking thumb and rocking. Displaying sexual behaviour in their play. Expresses knowledge of adult sexual behaviour.	Forming relationships with people Not able to trust anyone Counselling support
Bullying	Give an example of bullying	Identify signs and symptoms of bullying	How does bullying affect behaviour	What are the consequences?

Safeguarding Policies and Procedures in Child Care Settings

Policy	Procedure	Examples of other policies in your setting
Suspected or apparent abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Any mark or injury on the child’s body should be investigated. ▪ Ask the child or young person what has happened ▪ With regards to babies and toddlers talk to the parents. ▪ If there is still concern, then pass information on to the manager and safe guarding officer. 	?
Disclosure policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to the child carefully and do not ask questions • Reassure child that you believe what has been said. • Tell child you will protect them • Tell child you will need to talk to other adults in order to help him or her. D not promise the child you will keep the information a secret. • Reassure the child that he/she is not in trouble and that he and she has acted properly. • Once the conversation has ended, make notes before talking to anyone else: • Record date, time and the factual details of what the child has revealed. • Ensure to sign the notes. 	?
Nappy changing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves and aprons must be worn • Cover area with clean paper • Soiled nappy must be placed in a sack and disposed in bin lined with plastic liner • Never rinse or wash non-disposable nappies • Two people must be present during nappy changing and door must be left open. • Dispose of gloves and apron and wash hands thoroughly. 	?
Visitors		?
Mobile phones	<p>Mobile phones should be switched off during working hours and left in lockers or hand bags.</p> <p>Office phone should be used to make work related phone calls.</p>	?

Safeguarding children from internet abuse

Digital abuse	Possible risk of abuse	Consequences	Ways of preventing digital abuse
<p>Internet</p> <p>E-mail</p> <p>Facebook</p> <p>Twitter</p> <p>Chatline</p>	<p>Grooming:</p> <p>Paedophiles chat on line, make friends, build trust by lying and deceiving children and young people about their identity.</p> <p>Sharing inappropriate images of sexual nature between abusers</p> <p>On-line game abuse between other gamers</p> <p>Cyber bullying :</p> <p>Threaten, embarrass or tease</p> <p>Talking to strangers and revealing personal information: mobile numbers and pictures of themselves.</p> <p>Making sexual comments</p>	<p>Grooming</p> <p>Kidnap</p> <p>Rape</p> <p>Murder</p> <p>Feel lonely</p> <p>Feel unhappy</p> <p>Feel frightened</p> <p>Feel unsafe</p> <p>Depression</p> <p>Low-self esteem</p> <p>Not attend school</p> <p>Suicidal</p>	<p>Keep computer in a family room.</p> <p>Report any suspected to police.</p> <p>Monitor games</p> <p>Schools supervise the use of computers and control access to websites.</p> <p>Have pass word access to computer usage.</p> <p>Use software to filter out inappropriate websites</p> <p>Teach children and young people to keep personal information safe</p>
<p>Mobile</p>	<p>Inappropriate text messaging.</p> <p>Sending inappropriate images.</p> <p>Taking indecent pictures.</p> <p>Bullying and teasing.</p>	<p>Feel unhappy</p> <p>Feel frightened</p> <p>Lose confidence</p> <p>Become withdrawn</p> <p>Not attend school</p> <p>Suicidal</p>	<p>Explain to child not to give mobile phone number to strangers or people he/she does not fully trust.</p>

Agencies involved in safeguarding the welfare of children and young people

The safety and welfare of children depends on agencies which work together to provide an effective service.

The table below identifies some of the specific agencies and outlines their responsibility in preventing and protecting children and young people from all forms of abuse.

Agency	Role
Child exploitation and Online Protection Centre CEOP	To eradicate the sexual abuse of children.
National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children NSPCC	Provides a Child Line –advice Provide 24 hour on line service Provide a help line for people who are worried about a child. Provides services to support families and children. Shares expertise with other professionals.
Criminal Records Bureau CRB	Helps organisations identify people who are unsuitable for certain types of work involving contact with children. Does criminal checks on individual who want to work with children.
Police	Work closely with children’s social care to protect children from harm. Take immediate action if children are in immediate danger. Attend court to give evidence when a crime has been committed.
Social Services	
Kids safety	

