

CHILD PROTECTION

We intend to create in our Pre-school and Nursery, an environment in which children are safe from abuse and in which any suspicion of abuse, is promptly and appropriately responded to in line with the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB), Department for Education (Children's Services) and Every Child Matters.

1:1 Children's rights

Policy statement

St Saviour's Preschool aims to provide a safe, caring environment, and encourages each child to be independent and confident. We aim to protect children from maltreatment, to prevent impairment of health or development, and to ensure they are provided with safe and effective care.

We actively promote respect of their own and others' home languages, ethnicity, beliefs and individuality. We will challenge any behaviour, (staff, children or parents), that is not in line with the fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs (see Prevent Policy). During PSE/UTW discussions, staff will actively promote British values, and will have regard to Government requirements to promote children's welfare, and prevent radicalisation and extremism.

We promote the children's right to be strong, resilient and listened to, by encouraging children to develop a strong sense of autonomy and independence, and by enabling them to build the self-confidence and vocabulary required, to resist inappropriate approaches. This is supported by our Key-person strategy, which ensures that staff members are trained to listen to children and are able to recognise changes in their behaviour or demeanour, and are trained to respond appropriately.

We help children to establish and sustain satisfying relationships within their families, with peers, and other adults.

We work with parents/carers to build their understanding of, and commitment to the principles of safeguarding all our children.

What it means to promote children's rights and entitlements to be '*strong, resilient and listened to*':

To be strong means to be:

- secure in their foremost attachment relationships, where they are loved and cared for by at least one person who is able to offer consistent, positive and unconditional regard and who can be relied on
- safe and valued as individuals in their families and in relationships beyond the family, such as nursery or school
- self-assured and form a positive sense of themselves – including all aspects of their identity and heritage

- included equally and belong in our setting and in community life
- confident in their own abilities and proud of their achievements
- progressing optimally in all aspects of their development and learning
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To be resilient means to:

- be sure of their self-worth and dignity
- be able to be assertive and state their needs effectively
- be able to overcome difficulties and problems
- be positive in their outlook on life
- be able to cope with challenge and change
- have a sense of justice towards themselves and others
- develop a sense of responsibility towards themselves and others

To be listened to means:

- adults who are close to children recognise their need and right to express and communicate their thoughts, feelings and ideas
- adults who are close to children are able to tune in to their verbal, sign and body language in order to understand and interpret what is being expressed and communicated
- adults who are close to children are able to respond appropriately and, when required, act upon their understanding of what children express and communicate
- adults respect children's rights and facilitate children's participation and representation in imaginative and child centred ways in all aspects of core services

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