Springboard Sunderland Trust

Springboard Nursery

NUR50 - Safeguarding Policy

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NUR50 - Safeguarding Policy	
Category:	Springboard Nursery
Responsible Person:	Marie Hunter
Accountable Person:	Jane Waggott
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Purpose of this policy

Springboard Nursery is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every child in our care.

We recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All children have the right to be protected from abuse, neglect, exploitation, discrimination and other forms of harm, regardless of their age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, religion or belief, language, family circumstances, sexual orientation, gender identity or any other characteristic.

Our safeguarding practice is child-centred. We listen to children, take their views seriously, recognise that children communicate in different ways, and consider their individual circumstances, vulnerabilities and lived experiences.

This policy sets out the procedures that all staff, assistants, volunteers and other adults working in or associated with the setting must follow when they have a concern about a child's safety or welfare.

The policy is based on:

- the **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework** applicable to our provider type;
- **Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026**;
- the safeguarding arrangements of the **Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP)**;
- relevant legislation and statutory guidance;
- local Sunderland safeguarding procedures, thresholds and referral arrangements;
- Ofsted's early years inspection arrangements.

The EYFS is mandatory for early-years providers in England and sets the standards providers must meet to ensure children learn and develop well and are kept healthy and safe. The revised EYFS frameworks applying from 1 September 2026 contain strengthened safeguarding and welfare requirements.

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2. Our safeguarding principles

We will:

1. Put the child's safety, welfare and best interests first.
2. Listen to children and take what they say seriously.
3. Act promptly when concerns arise.
4. Never assume that someone else will report a concern.
5. Never promise a child that information will remain secret.
6. Share information appropriately where this is necessary to protect a child.
7. Maintain accurate, factual and confidential safeguarding records.
8. Work openly and cooperatively with parents and carers wherever this is safe and appropriate.
9. Work effectively with children's social care, health, police, education and other agencies.
10. Maintain professional curiosity and avoid accepting explanations without appropriate consideration of the wider circumstances.
11. Recognise that children may experience more than one form of harm.

12. Recognise that safeguarding concerns can arise inside or outside the home and inside or outside the setting.
13. Challenge discriminatory, abusive or unsafe behaviour.
14. Review safeguarding practice regularly and learn from incidents, concerns and safeguarding reviews.

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3. Designated Safeguarding Lead

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is responsible for coordinating safeguarding and child protection arrangements within the setting.

DSL: Jane Waggott
Contact: 0191 5155334
Deputy DSL: Gemma Dunn

The DSL will:

- provide advice and support to staff and assistants;
- ensure safeguarding concerns are acted upon promptly;
- maintain confidential safeguarding records;
- decide when concerns should be referred to children's social care or another agency;
- make referrals where required;
- liaise with Sunderland Children's Safeguarding/Integrated Contact and Referral arrangements;
- cooperate with social workers, police, health professionals and other agencies;
- ensure safeguarding information is shared appropriately;
- support staff to understand their safeguarding responsibilities;
- ensure safeguarding training is completed and kept up to date;
- maintain awareness of local safeguarding procedures and the SSCP Thresholds of Need;
- ensure allegations against adults are managed through the appropriate Designated Officer arrangements;
- ensure safeguarding policies and procedures are reviewed regularly;
- ensure children who are subject to safeguarding plans receive appropriate support within the setting;
- ensure the setting learns from safeguarding incidents, concerns and lessons learned reviews.

The DSL will not be expected to investigate matters that should properly be investigated by children's social care, police or other statutory agencies.

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4. If you are worried about a child

Any member of staff, assistant, volunteer or other person working in the setting who has a safeguarding concern must act.

A concern may arise from:

- something a child says;

- something a child does;
- an injury or unexplained mark;
- a change in behaviour;
- information from a parent, carer or another professional;
- information from another child;
- something observed in the child's home or community;
- an online concern;
- information about another adult;
- information obtained outside the setting;
- a pattern of smaller concerns that together indicate increased risk.

The person who identifies the concern must:

1. Listen carefully.
2. Remain calm.
3. Reassure the child that they have done the right thing by speaking.
4. Avoid leading questions.
5. Avoid investigating the matter themselves.
6. Record what they have seen, heard or been told as soon as possible.
7. Report the concern immediately to the DSL or deputy DSL.
8. Take immediate protective action if the child is in danger.

If the DSL is unavailable, or if the concern is about the DSL, the concern must be reported to the appropriate alternative person or directly to children's social care/police where necessary.

Staff must never delay a referral because the DSL is unavailable.

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5. Immediate danger

If a child is in immediate danger, has suffered a serious injury, or a crime may be in progress:

Call 999.

Staff must then inform the DSL as soon as it is safe to do so.

Where appropriate, medical assistance should be obtained immediately.

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6. Sunderland safeguarding contacts

If there is a safeguarding concern about a child or young person under 18 in Sunderland, contact Sunderland Children's Safeguarding.

Sunderland Children's Safeguarding:
0191 561 7007

Current published hours are:

- Monday–Thursday: 8.30am–5.15pm
- Friday: 8.30am–4.45pm

Out of hours / Emergency Duty Team:
0191 520 5560

Emergency:
999

These contact arrangements will be checked regularly against the current Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership/Together for Children information and amended immediately if they change.

The SSCP directs professionals to its local procedures, referral arrangements, Thresholds of Need, information-sharing guidance and other safeguarding resources.

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7. Making a referral

Where there is reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, the setting will make an appropriate referral without delay.

The DSL will provide as much relevant information as possible, including:

- child's name and date of birth;
- child's address;
- parent/carer's details;
- nature of the concern;
- what has been observed;
- what the child has said, using the child's own words where possible;
- injuries or changes in behaviour;
- relevant developmental information;
- relevant medical information known to the setting;
- known family or social circumstances;
- information about other children who may be affected;
- actions already taken.

The setting will follow the current Sunderland referral process and local threshold arrangements.

A referral will not be delayed because the setting has been unable to contact a parent or obtain parental consent where safeguarding considerations mean that information must be shared.

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8. Working with parents and carers

We value positive relationships with parents and carers.

Where it is safe and appropriate, we will work openly with parents and carers and explain concerns and proposed actions.

However, there may be circumstances where informing a parent/carer before seeking advice or making a referral could:

- place the child at greater risk;
- place another person at risk;
- compromise a police investigation;
- lead to evidence being destroyed;
- increase the risk of intimidation or retaliation.

In such circumstances, advice will be sought from children's social care, police or another appropriate safeguarding professional before information is shared.

Safeguarding decisions will always be based on the child's welfare and safety.

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9. Recording safeguarding concerns

All safeguarding concerns must be recorded accurately and promptly.

Records should include:

- date and time;
- child's name;
- name of person making the record;
- what was observed;
- what was said;
- the child's exact words where possible;
- relevant contextual information;
- action taken;
- who the concern was reported to;
- any referral made;
- advice received;
- subsequent action.

Records must distinguish between:

Fact: what was actually observed or said.

Professional judgement: what the practitioner believes the information may indicate.

Records must not contain unnecessary speculation, assumptions or judgemental language.

Where an injury is observed, the setting will record:

- location;
- size/appearance where appropriate;
- date and time;
- the child's presentation;
- explanation given;
- who provided the explanation;

- action taken.

Safeguarding records will be stored securely and separately from general childcare records where appropriate.

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10. Confidentiality and information sharing

Safeguarding information is confidential but confidentiality must never prevent appropriate safeguarding action.

Information will be shared on a need-to-know basis and in accordance with safeguarding law and guidance.

We will share information with children's social care, police, health professionals and other relevant agencies where this is necessary to:

- protect a child from harm;
- assess risk;
- provide appropriate support;
- prevent further harm;
- contribute to a safeguarding assessment or investigation.

Staff should never assume that they need parental consent before reporting a safeguarding concern.

The decision to share or not share information will be recorded where appropriate, including the reason for the decision.

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11. Types of abuse and neglect

Physical abuse

Physical abuse may involve:

- hitting;
- shaking;
- throwing;
- poisoning;
- burning or scalding;
- drowning;
- suffocating;
- choking;
- causing physical injury by any other means;
- fabricating or deliberately inducing illness.

Physical harm may be caused by a parent, carer, another adult or another child.

Emotional or psychological abuse

Emotional abuse involves persistent emotional maltreatment that has, or may have, a serious effect on a child's emotional development.

It may include:

- making a child feel worthless or unloved;
- humiliation;
- persistent criticism;
- threats;
- intimidation;
- controlling behaviour;
- inappropriate expectations;
- preventing appropriate social interaction;
- preventing a child expressing their views;
- deliberately silencing or mocking communication;
- exposing a child to domestic abuse;
- serious bullying or cyberbullying;
- causing a child to feel frightened or in danger;
- exploitation or corruption.

Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child understands what is happening.

It may involve:

- sexual touching;
- assault by penetration;
- non-penetrative sexual acts;
- sexualised kissing or touching;
- involving children in sexual images;
- encouraging sexualised behaviour;
- exposing children to sexual activity;
- grooming;
- online sexual abuse;
- exploitation through digital technology.

Sexual abuse can be perpetrated by adults or children and can occur online or offline.

Child sexual exploitation

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse involving an imbalance of power where a child is coerced, manipulated or deceived into sexual activity in exchange for something they need or want, or for financial advantage or increased status for another person.

It may occur without physical contact and may involve technology.

A child may be exploited even where they appear to have agreed to the activity.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical or psychological needs and may result in serious impairment of health or development.

It may involve failing to provide:

- adequate food;
- suitable clothing;
- safe accommodation;
- appropriate supervision;
- protection from harm;
- medical treatment;
- suitable education;
- emotional care.

Neglect may occur before birth, including where substance misuse during pregnancy places a child at risk.

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12. Other safeguarding risks

Springboard Nursery recognises that safeguarding concerns may involve:

- domestic abuse;
- coercive or controlling behaviour;
- child criminal exploitation;
- child sexual exploitation;
- trafficking and modern slavery;
- missing children;
- group-based exploitation;
- harmful sexual behaviour;
- child-on-child abuse;
- online abuse;
- grooming;
- abuse linked to honour;
- forced marriage;
- female genital mutilation;

- abuse linked to faith or belief;
- radicalisation and extremism;
- bullying and cyberbullying;
- discrimination;
- disability-related abuse;
- neglect;
- fabricated or induced illness;
- substance misuse within the family;
- parental mental health difficulties where these affect a child's safety;
- unsafe adults having access to children.

The setting recognises that children may experience multiple forms of harm simultaneously.

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13. Child-on-child abuse

Children can harm other children.

We will not dismiss harmful behaviour as "children being children".

Concerns may include:

- bullying;
- physical abuse;
- sexual harassment;
- sexual violence;
- harmful sexual behaviour;
- coercion;
- intimidation;
- exploitation;
- online abuse;
- discriminatory abuse.

Any concern involving one child harming another will be taken seriously.

The response will consider:

- the needs and safety of the child harmed;
- the behaviour and needs of the child who has caused harm;
- the developmental stage of both children;
- the possibility that either child may themselves be experiencing abuse or exploitation;
- whether other children are at risk.

14. Bruising and non-mobile babies

Bruising in a baby or child who is not independently mobile is unusual and may be an indicator of abuse or another medical condition.

Any bruising in a non-mobile baby will be treated as a safeguarding concern requiring appropriate assessment.

We will:

- record the injury accurately;
- record when and where it was observed;
- record the explanation given;
- consider the child's developmental stage;
- consider relevant medical and social history known to us;
- maintain professional curiosity;
- seek appropriate safeguarding advice promptly;
- make a referral where required;
- seek urgent medical assistance where appropriate.

We will not automatically accept an explanation as innocent without considering the circumstances objectively.

Together for Children/local safeguarding pathway will be followed for bruising in non-mobile children.

15. Injuries and physical marks

Any unexplained or concerning injury will be reported to the DSL.

Particular attention will be given to:

- injuries inconsistent with developmental ability;
- injuries with an unclear explanation;
- repeated injuries;
- injuries in unusual locations;
- multiple injuries;
- injuries accompanied by concerning behaviour or disclosures;
- injuries where the explanation changes.

Staff must not conduct their own investigation.

16. Responding to a disclosure

If a child tells a member of staff that they have been harmed, the adult should:

- remain calm;
- listen carefully;
- allow the child to speak;
- take the child seriously;
- acknowledge what the child has said;
- reassure them that they have done the right thing by telling someone;
- explain that the information may need to be shared to keep them safe;
- record the child's words as accurately as possible;
- report immediately to the DSL or deputy DSL.

Staff must not:

- promise secrecy;
- ask leading questions;
- investigate;
- interrogate the child;
- ask the child to repeat the disclosure unnecessarily;
- express disbelief;
- suggest answers;
- confront an alleged perpetrator.

17. Domestic abuse

We recognise the significant impact domestic abuse can have on babies and children.

Domestic abuse may include:

- physical abuse;
- emotional abuse;
- sexual abuse;
- coercive or controlling behaviour;
- financial abuse;
- threats or intimidation.

A child may be harmed by seeing, hearing or experiencing domestic abuse.

Where domestic abuse is identified or suspected, the DSL will consider:

- immediate safety;
- the child's emotional and physical wellbeing;
- whether other children are affected;
- whether the non-abusive parent/carer needs support;

- whether a referral to children's social care is required.

We will not place responsibility for managing domestic abuse on a child.

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18. Child criminal exploitation and wider exploitation

We recognise that children can be exploited for criminal purposes, including:

- county lines activity;
- drug supply;
- theft;
- violence;
- sexual exploitation;
- trafficking;
- forced criminality.

Children may not recognise themselves as victims.

Changes in behaviour, unexplained money or possessions, missing episodes, new adults or older peers in a child's life, secrecy, fear or unexplained injuries may be indicators.

Concerns will be shared with the DSL and referred to appropriate agencies where necessary.

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19. Online safety

Safeguarding includes protection from online harm.

The setting will consider risks arising from:

- internet use;
- social media;
- messaging applications;
- online gaming;
- inappropriate content;
- grooming;
- sexual exploitation;
- cyberbullying;
- sharing images;
- live streaming;
- contact with unknown adults.

Parents and carers will be supported to understand online risks appropriate to their child's age and development.

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20. Mobile phones, cameras and electronic devices

Springboard Nursery have clear controls over the use of mobile phones, cameras, tablets, smart watches and other devices capable of recording or sharing images.

Staff and visitors must follow the setting's device procedures and policy.

Children's images will only be taken and stored in accordance with the setting's agreed procedures and parental permissions where required.

Personal devices must not be used inappropriately to photograph or record children.

Any suspected inappropriate image-taking or sharing will be treated as a safeguarding concern and reported immediately to the DSL.

Where criminal activity may have occurred, the police will be contacted.

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21. Safer recruitment and suitability

Springboard Nursery recognises that safer recruitment is an essential part of safeguarding. *Please refer to* ***Springboard Safer Recruitment Policy.***

We will:

- undertake appropriate identity checks;
- obtain appropriate DBS checks;
- verify qualifications where required;
- obtain references;
- assess suitability to work with children;
- record recruitment checks;
- ensure staff understand safeguarding responsibilities;
- monitor ongoing suitability.

Where required, enhanced DBS and children's barred-list checks will be obtained before a person undertakes regulated activity with children.

No person will be allowed to work with children where the required checks have not been completed unless the EYFS and applicable legal requirements expressly permit this and the appropriate safeguards are in place.

Suitability is an ongoing responsibility. New concerns about an individual's suitability will be acted upon promptly.

22. Volunteers, students and assistants

Volunteers, students and assistants must:

- understand this safeguarding policy;
- receive an appropriate safeguarding induction;
- understand how to report concerns;
- be appropriately supervised;
- meet applicable suitability and checking requirements.

23. Safeguarding training

All practitioners and relevant adults will receive safeguarding induction appropriate to their role.

Training will cover:

- recognising abuse and neglect;
- responding to disclosures;
- recording concerns;
- reporting procedures;
- local Together For Children Sunderland referral arrangements;
- child-on-child abuse;
- online safety;
- exploitation;
- domestic abuse;
- professional boundaries;
- whistleblowing;
- safer working practices.

The DSL will undertake appropriate DSL training every two years and keep knowledge up to date.

Safeguarding training will be refreshed and updated in line with current requirements and identified local risks.

Training records will be maintained.

24. Allegations against adults

An allegation or concern about an adult who works or volunteers with children will be taken seriously.

This includes concerns about:

- the provider;
- the DSL;
- staff;
- assistants;
- volunteers;
- students;
- contractors;
- agency staff;
- other adults who regularly have contact with children;
- adults living in a childminder's household where relevant.

The Sunderland Designated Officer oversees allegations involving adults who work or volunteer with children. The threshold includes situations where an adult may have harmed a child, may have committed a criminal offence against or related to a child, has behaved in a way indicating a risk of harm, or may be unsuitable to work with children.

The setting will contact the Sunderland Designated Officer where the relevant threshold is met and will follow their advice.

Current SSCP arrangements state that new Designated Officer referrals are made using the local referral process.

Designated Officer:
Current contact details will be obtained from the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership and checked regularly before being included in this policy.

Where an allegation concerns the DSL/provider, the person raising the concern must bypass the DSL and contact the Designated Officer and/or police/children's social care as appropriate.

The setting will not conduct its own investigation where doing so could compromise a statutory investigation.

25. Whistleblowing

All staff and assistants have a responsibility to raise concerns about unsafe practice. *Please refer to* ***Springboard Nursery Whistleblowing Policy.***

A person should report concerns to:

1. the DSL/ Springboard CEO;
2. another senior person if the concern involves the DSL;
3. the Sunderland Designated Officer, children's social care, police or Ofsted where appropriate.

No person will be treated unfairly for raising a genuine safeguarding concern.

If an individual believes that a safeguarding concern has not been dealt with appropriately, they must escalate the concern rather than allowing it to remain unresolved.

26. Prevent, radicalisation and extremism

The setting recognises that children can be vulnerable to extremist influences.

We will remain alert to signs that a child or family may be affected by:

- extremist ideology;
- radicalisation;
- grooming;
- online extremist content;
- pressure from others.

Concerns will be discussed with the DSL and appropriate advice will be sought.

The setting will follow current Prevent and local safeguarding arrangements where a concern arises.

27. Female genital mutilation, forced marriage and honour-based abuse

The setting recognises that children may be at risk of:

- female genital mutilation;
- forced marriage;
- honour-based violence;
- other abuse associated with family or community expectations.

Any concern will be treated as a safeguarding matter.

Staff must not attempt to mediate or investigate.

Immediate risk will be reported to the police and/or children's social care as appropriate.

28. Missing children

If a child is absent unexpectedly or goes missing from the setting, immediate action will be taken in accordance with the setting's missing-child and Attendance Policy/ procedure.

The response will consider:

- the child's age;
- developmental ability;
- known vulnerabilities;
- circumstances of the absence;
- whether there is any indication of exploitation or abduction.

The police will be contacted immediately where there is an immediate risk or concern that the child has been abducted or is otherwise in danger.

29. Dogs and other animals

The setting will ensure that children are protected from risks associated with animals.

Where the 2026 EYFS requirements prohibit registered childcare from being provided at premises where a banned dog breed is kept or present, the setting will comply with those requirements.

Animals will be managed in a way that prevents children being placed at avoidable risk.

30. Children with additional vulnerabilities

We recognise that some children may face increased safeguarding risks.

This may include children who:

- have disabilities or additional needs;
- have communication difficulties;
- are very young;
- are non-mobile;
- are subject to a child protection plan;
- are looked after;
- have experienced trauma;
- are living with domestic abuse;
- are experiencing exploitation;
- are isolated;
- have limited communication;

- are experiencing discrimination.

We will make reasonable adjustments to ensure children can communicate concerns and participate in safeguarding processes.

31. Professional curiosity

We will maintain professional curiosity when safeguarding concerns arise.

This means we will:

- consider the whole picture;
- notice patterns rather than isolated incidents;
- consider whether explanations are consistent with the child's developmental stage;
- seek further information where appropriate;
- avoid assumptions;
- consider family and environmental circumstances;
- recognise disguised compliance;
- recognise that children and families may minimise or conceal harm;
- seek advice when uncertain.

Professional curiosity does not mean assuming that an explanation is untrue. It means ensuring that safeguarding decisions are based on appropriate evidence and consideration.

32. Working with other agencies

We recognise that effective safeguarding requires partnership working.

We will cooperate with:

- Sunderland Children's Safeguarding;
- Together for Children;
- Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership;
- police;
- health professionals;
- early help/family support services;
- educational settings;
- Ofsted;
- the Sunderland Designated Officer;
- other relevant agencies.

We will contribute relevant information to assessments, meetings and safeguarding plans.

33. Early help and support

Not every concern requires a child protection referral.

Where a child or family needs additional support and there is no immediate child protection concern, we will consider whether early help or another appropriate support service is required.

However, a concern will be escalated whenever the level of risk increases.

The SSCP provides local Thresholds of Need information to support professionals in deciding what level of support or safeguarding response may be appropriate.

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34. Children subject to a child protection plan

Where a child attending the setting is subject to a child protection plan, the DSL will:

- understand the plan and the child's identified risks;
- maintain appropriate communication with the allocated social worker;
- attend relevant meetings where requested;
- contribute observations and information;
- record relevant concerns;
- act immediately if new concerns arise.

Staff will remain vigilant to changes in the child's circumstances.

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35. Safeguarding culture

Safeguarding is embedded in everyday practice at Springboard Nursery.

All staff are expected to:

- know the children in their care;
- understand individual vulnerabilities;
- supervise appropriately;
- maintain professional boundaries;
- challenge unsafe practice;
- communicate concerns;
- maintain appropriate records;
- treat children with dignity and respect.

Children should feel safe, listened to and able to seek help.

36. Policy review

This policy will be reviewed:

- at least annually;
- following significant changes in legislation or statutory guidance;
- following changes to Sunderland safeguarding arrangements;
- following a serious safeguarding incident;
- following relevant safeguarding learning or review;
- when Ofsted or another regulatory body identifies a need for change.

The provider will ensure that all relevant staff are informed of significant policy changes.

37. Key safeguarding contacts

Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Jane Waggott
0191 5155334

Deputy DSL:
Gemma Dunn

Springboard CEO/Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Steve Reay
0191 5155330

Sunderland Children's Safeguarding:
0191 561 7007
Monday–Thursday 8.30am–5.15pm
Friday 8.30am–4.45pm

Sunderland Emergency Duty Team:
0191 520 5560

Police:
101 – non-emergency
999 – emergency

Sunderland Designated Officer:
designatedofficer@togetherforchildren.org.uk
0191 5613901

Ofsted:

0300 123 4666

NSPCC Helpline:
0808 800 5000

Childline:
0800 1111

38. Key safeguarding documents

The provider will maintain access to the latest versions of:

- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026;
- the applicable EYFS Statutory Framework;
- Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures;
- Sunderland Thresholds of Need;
- Sunderland referral arrangements;
- Sunderland Designated Officer procedures;
- current Ofsted early-years inspection requirements;
- relevant safeguarding and information-sharing guidance.

The provider will check the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership website regularly for changes to local procedures, referral routes and safeguarding contacts.

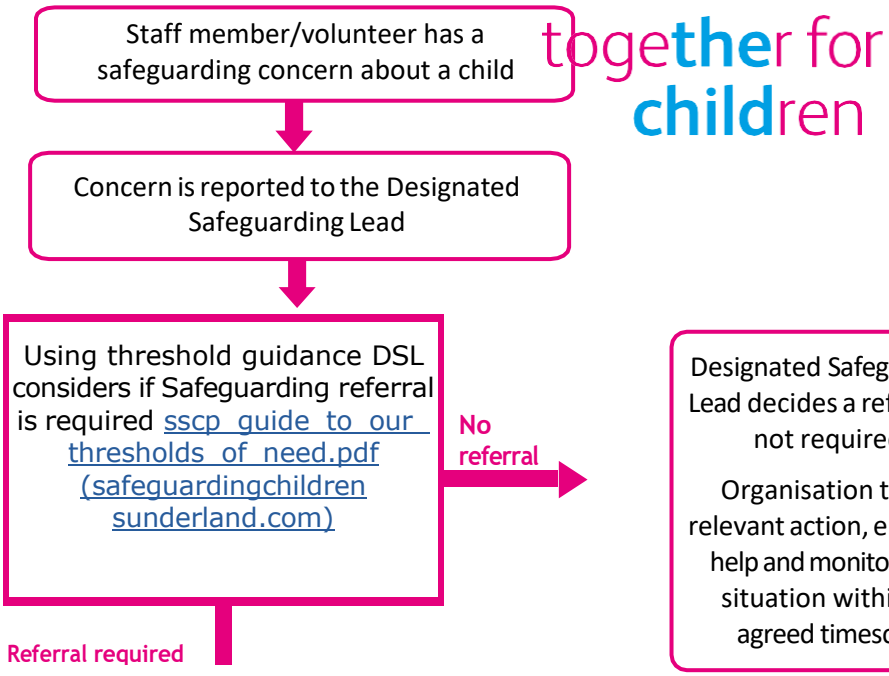
For Advice & Guidance:

ICRT Concerned about a child? - Together for Children	**0191 561 7007**
Early Help Advice and Allocations Team Early Years Team (School Improvement Service)	0191 561 4084
Nicola Wardropper (Early Years Development Team Lead)	07435753524
Kaye Welsh (Early Years Development Officer)	07867160236
Joanne Johnson (Early Years Development Officer)	07867275792
Beth Stockdale (Early Years Development Officer)	07747292809
Shantelle Kennon (Early Years Development Officer)	07350393165

Appendix 2

Flowchart of Procedures for responding to Safeguarding Concerns

All concerns and correspondence will be kept in a secure, confidential file. The child's circumstances will be kept under review at all stages and a referral will be made again if it is appropriate for improving the child's circumstances. The child's best interests must always come first.



Designated Safeguarding Lead makes a referral to children's social care and contacts police if appropriate

Integrated Contact and Referral Team - Together for Children

Referral is made if things escalate

Social care will decide what response is required within one working day

The child is in need of immediate protection

The referrer will be informed of this

Appropriate emergency action is taken by a social worker, the police or NSPCC

A section 47 enquiry is required by social care if they have reasonable cause to suspect a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm

The referrer will be informed of this

Child is identified as being at risk of significant harm

Child Protection plan is created if needed

A section 17 enquiry is required if social care believe the child needs extra help from professionals or services

The referrer will be informed of this

Child is identified as being a child in need

The appropriate support to meet the child's needs is identified

No formal assessment is required

The referrer will be informed of this

Flowchart of Procedures for responding to allegations against adults who work and volunteer with children in Sunderland

together for children SUNDERLAND

Appendix 3

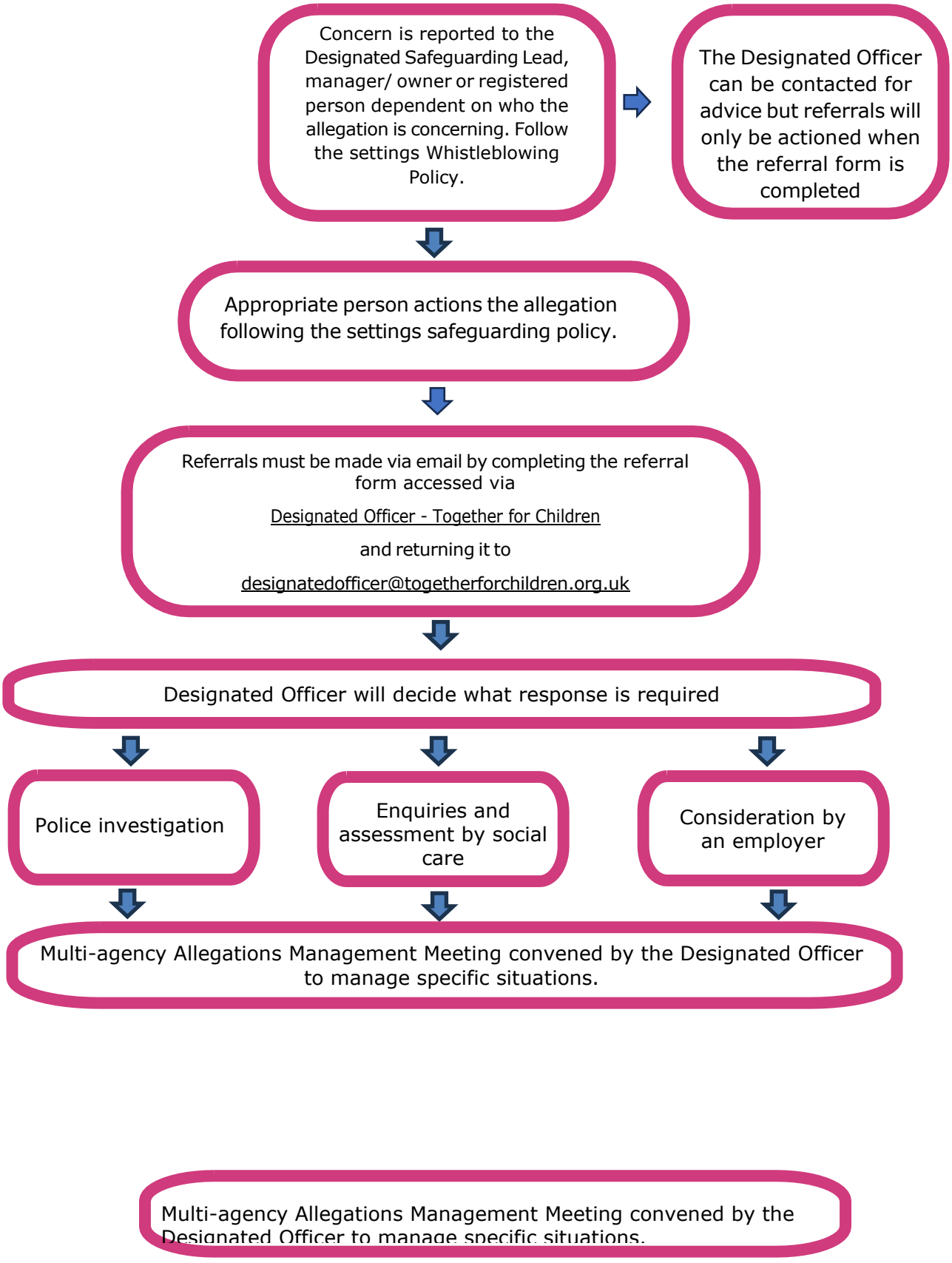
There is an allegation against an adult who works or volunteers with children

Appropriate emergency actions

Organisation cons pastoral suppor early help assess

Child is identified as being at risk of significant harm

Child is identified as being a child in need



Multi-agency Allegations Management Meeting convened by the Designated Officer to manage specific situations.