

## Equalities Statement

With regards to safeguarding we will consider our duties under the [Equality Act 2010](#) and our general and specific duties under the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#). General duties include:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristics and people who do not share it.
- Foster good relations across all protected characteristics between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Staff are aware of the additional barriers to recognising abuse and neglect in children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). This will be in line with our Special Educational Needs and Disability Policy. This policy can be found in the policy folder and available on our website.

Grayswood Nursery School also adheres to the principals of and promotes anti-oppressive practice in line with the [United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child](#) and the [Human Rights Act 1998](#).

## Principles, values and aims

The Early Years Foundation Stage (2023) states 'All children deserve the care and support they need to have the best start in life. Children learn and develop at a faster rate from birth to five years old than at any other time in their lives, so their experiences in early years have a major impact on their future life chances. A secure, safe, and happy childhood is important in its own right. Good parenting and high-quality early learning provide the foundation children need to fulfil their potential.'

Grayswood Nursery School will demonstrate a commitment regarding Safeguarding and Child Protection to children, parents and other partners. We will maintain an attitude of 'it could happen here', where the welfare of the child is paramount.

Grayswood Nursery School will ensure safeguarding and child protection are at the forefront and underpin all relevant aspects of process and policy development, so all systems, processes and policies operate in the best interests of the child.

All children have a right to be protected from harm and abuse. All staff have a role in the prevention of harm and abuse and an equal responsibility to act immediately on any suspicion or disclosure which may indicate a child is at risk of harm, either in Grayswood Nursery School or in the community, taking into account contextual safeguarding, in accordance with statutory guidance.

We acknowledge that working in partnership with other agencies protects children and reduces risk and we will engage in partnership working to protect and safeguard children.

Whilst Grayswood Nursery School will work openly with parents as far as possible, we reserve the right to contact Social Care or the Police, without notifying parents if this is believed to be in the child's best interests.