



Whistleblowing Policy

Whilst we expect all our colleagues to be professional at all times and hold the welfare and safety of every child as their paramount objectives, there may be occasions where this may not be happening.

It is vital that all team members talk through any concerns they may have with their manager at the earliest opportunity to enable any problems to be ironed out as soon as they arise.

Disclosure of information

If, in the course of your employment, you become aware of information which you reasonably believe tends to show one or more of the following, you **MUST** use the nursery's disclosure procedure set out below:

- That a criminal offence has been committed or is being committed or is likely to be committed.
- That a person has failed, is failing or is likely to fail to comply with any legal obligation to which they are subject (e.g. EYFS, National Minimum Standards, National Care Standards)
- That a miscarriage of justice that has occurred, is occurring, or is likely to occur.
- That the health or safety of any individual has been, is being, or is likely to be, endangered.
- That the environment, has been, is being, or is likely to be, damaged.
- That information tending to show any of the above, is being, or is likely to be, deliberately concealed.

Disclosure procedure

- If this information relates to safeguarding then the nursery safeguarding policy should be followed.

- Where you reasonably believe one or more of the above circumstances listed above has occurred you should promptly disclose this to your manager so that any appropriate action can be taken. If it is inappropriate to make such a disclosure to your manager (i.e. because it relates to your manager) you should speak to our other manager or a member of the Go Commando trust.
- If you have already spoken to the manager or trust member regarding child protection issues and you are concerned about how it is being handled, you can talk to the NSPCC anonymously on 0800 028 0285.
- Employees will suffer no detriment of any sort for making such a disclosure in accordance with this procedure. For further guidance in the use of the disclosure procedure, employees should speak in confidence to the manager or one of the trust members.
- Any disclosure or concern raised will be treated seriously and will be dealt with in a consistent and confidential manner and will be followed through in a detailed and thorough manner.
- Any employee who is involved in victimising employees who make a disclosure, takes any action to deter employees from disclosing information or make malicious allegations or disclosures in bad faith will be subject to potential disciplinary action which may result in dismissal.
- Failure to report serious matters can also be investigated and potentially lead to disciplinary action which may result in dismissal.
- Any management employee who inappropriately deals with a whistleblowing issue (e.g. failing to react appropriately by not taking action in a timely manner or disclosing confidential information) may be deemed to have engaged in gross misconduct which could lead to dismissal.