



None Mobile Baby/ child policy.

Following from a recent Serious Case Review (safeguarding review after an investigation into the death of a child) which notes that “Accidental bruising on non-independently mobile infants is rare and should therefore always warrant further investigation” this policy and procedure has been implemented into our practice, to ensure we are following correct safeguarding procedures in keeping with recent legislations and requirements.

The aim of the policy to safeguard non-moving babies and older children who are unable to move for a variety of reason, for example a disability, by putting in procedures in place to protect them if they are observed to have unexplained bruising or other injuries such as fractures, burns or head injuries which might suggest they have been subjected to abuse.

Terminology

Mobile– a baby who can crawl, pull to stand, “cruise” around furniture, is toddling/ beginning to walk

Non- Mobile– babies who are not able to do any of the above. Babies who can roll are classed as non-mobile for the purposes of this policy.

At Sceptre Nursery we recognise that accidents happen which can result in bruises etc., especially in mobile babies/ young children. However, evidence states that is highly unlikely that innocent bruising or other injuries will be observed in non-mobile babies.

We also recognise that the youngest children are at the highest risk of abuse.

The younger the child, the higher risk that bruising or a mark on a baby is non-accidental. It is a requirement of our CSAP Children’s safeguarding Assurance Partnership that we refer all cases of suspicious bruising/ marks in non-mobile babies and older children to them for investigation.

Procedure

If a child arrives at nursery with a visible injury/mark/bruise a “pre-existing injury form” will be completed and recorded for both mobile and non-mobile babies/ young children. If a reason has been given for the mark or injury by parent(s)/carer(s) this will be recorded, and the parent/carers will be asked to sign the form.

It is especially important that all bumps, bruises, and marks on a baby/young child are noted as soon as possible after they have been observed and places in the child’s file. The forms must be as detailed as possible and always signed and dated.



Accidents, incidents, injuries in the provision or at home, physical intervention and any other reports must be made in writing, as soon as possible after the incident occurred. In all cases it is important to note-

Child's name and D.O.B

Date and time of the accident

Who was present (witness)

Exactly what happened or exactly what you are told happened

What injuries were caused and a record of any first aid carried out

Whether parents were advised to take the baby to seek medical advice (hospital/doctor etc.) this advice must always be given in the event of a head injury

Whether a referral was made to another agency- police, doctor, social services etc.

The provider must sign and date the record

A signature and date of signing should be requested from parents

If there is an ongoing concern; for example, if a baby has been hurt by an older child in your care who may be a bit "heavy handed" with the baby, a thorough review of risk assessments will be carried out to show what mistakes were made and how they can be prevented.