

BUMP & MAMAS Safeguarding Policy

1. Policy Statement

BUMP & MAMAS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and families. We recognise our responsibility to protect children from harm and to act in accordance with UK safeguarding and child protection legislation, including the Children Act 1989, Children Act 2004, Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018), and Keeping Children Safe in Education (where applicable).

2. Scope

This policy applies to all staff, volunteers, contractors, and anyone working on behalf of BUMP & MAMAS who may come into contact with children, young people, or families.

3. Key Principles of Safeguarding

- The welfare of the child is paramount.
- All children have the right to be protected from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- Children and families should be listened to and taken seriously.
- Early intervention is key to preventing harm.

4. Recognising Abuse and Neglect

BUMP & MAMAS recognises that abuse may take many forms, including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and neglect. Staff and volunteers are expected to be alert to signs of abuse or neglect and to act on any concerns.

5. Safeguarding Measures

- All staff and volunteers will undergo appropriate safeguarding training.
- Clear codes of conduct will be followed when working with children and families.
- Safe recruitment practices will be used, including DBS checks where required.
- Children will be supervised appropriately at all times.
- Physical contact with children will always be appropriate, minimal, and in the child's best interest.
- Confidential information will be handled in line with data protection legislation.

6. Responding to Safeguarding Concerns

Any safeguarding concern must be reported immediately to the designated safeguarding lead (DSL). If a child is in immediate danger, emergency services should be contacted. Concerns will be recorded, reported, and referred to local safeguarding partners in line with local authority procedures.

7. Confidentiality and Information Sharing

Information will be shared on a need-to-know basis and in line with the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and safeguarding guidance. Confidentiality will never be a barrier to protecting a child from harm.

8. Review of Policy

This safeguarding policy will be reviewed annually or sooner if there are changes in legislation or organisational practice.