

## **“Safeguarding is everybody’s responsibility”**

Rebecca Cheetham Nursery and Children's Centre has a duty of care to ensure that all users of the Centre are kept safe from harm. Rebecca Cheetham and the delivering partners are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children providing a safe, secure and supportive environment in which children can develop and grow into mature and responsible people. Safeguarding children is an essential part of our holistic approach to ensure that children are protected from abuse and neglect and that every child reaches their full potential

The Nursery and Children’s centre staff, volunteers and service providers have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children as a shared responsibility with parents and other carers. To support this statement, the Centre may provide or signpost to services that are specialised to promote opportunity, prevent problems, act early and act effectively if and when concerns arise. If we have a cause for concern we will report it following the Pan London Child Protection Procedures [https://www.londoncp.co.uk/responding\\_concerns.html](https://www.londoncp.co.uk/responding_concerns.html). Whilst not having statutory duties or power under the Children Act to investigate any suspicions or allegations of abuse, Rebecca Cheetham and the delivering partners have a duty to report concerns so that the agencies powered with investigative responsibility can do so. In all cases where there are child protection concerns, the welfare of the child is paramount.

We cannot safeguard children alone. All children’s services agencies work in partnership with each other. There are duties and rules about information sharing but if staff, parents or carers have any concerns about a child, other parent, provider, agency or any person, they have a responsibility to report those concerns and we must record and act on them

We have a Rebecca Cheetham Children's Centre Safeguarding policy which is underpinned by Newham CYPs MASH procedures, Pan London Child Protection Procedures, Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children and Safer Recruitment guidance.

Safeguarding applies to all children and young people regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, sexuality or religion. It is a requirement that all users are informed of these policies and practice guidance and what they should do if they have concerns. The policies are available on request from the front office or on our website.

Parents and carers need to recognise their role in safeguarding children in their community. If you have any concerns, no matter how small, you should report them. Rebecca Cheetham and the delivering partners have a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) for this purpose. Parents, children, young people and service providers should speak to this designated lead if they have any concerns about a child, young person, centre user or staff member. All reports should be forwarded to line managers and the Rebecca Cheetham Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Rebecca Cheetham Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

Rohan Allen and Subina Begum  
DSL – 0208 534 3136

In their absence any DSL may be contacted for advice and information;

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead is:  
Mandy Young and Melissa Charlery  
DDSL - 0208 534 3136

### Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

Nick Pratt / Alex Mihu Email: [lado@newham.gov.uk](mailto:lado@newham.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 0203 3733803 / 0203 3736706

Rebecca Cheetham will ensure that all staff are aware of the procedures for reporting and recording concerns raised, and be aware of the escalation procedures, should this arise.

This policy applies to all staff, including senior managers, paid staff, volunteers and sessional workers, agency staff, students or anyone working on behalf of Rebecca Cheetham or working in partnership with Rebecca Cheetham. Procedures and other relevant safeguarding documents are available in e-format and for viewing on request. Other agencies in shared facilities will have their own policies and procedures in place.

**Updated: March 2023**