

## Safeguarding Children Policy

***As a Childminder I have a responsibility to ensure the safety of all the children in my care.***

I will take the necessary steps to keep the children safe and well. If I have any concerns regarding a child I will not hesitate reporting it as I have had the relevant training to recognise the signs and indicators of abuse. I can report abuse or neglect without consent if I feel it would endanger the child further but if there was a developmental issue I would discuss this with you and seek support for the child.

Abuse can be physical, sexual, and emotional or neglect and I will look out for:

- ***Changes in a child's behaviour*** – sudden changes in behaviour can be a sign that something significant has happened in the child's life
- ***Unexpected bruising or marks*** – children fall down all the time but there are certain places you don't expect to find bruising
- ***Comments made*** – if a child says anything that gives me cause for concern
- ***Deterioration in general well-being*** – ensuring that their quality of life is good and are achieving personal and social goals
- ***Signs of neglect*** – children have essential needs, I will notice if these are not being met

If you have any concerns over your child's safety you must notify me as soon as possible, I can then record any accidents, incidents or injuries affecting your child. If your child comes to my home with an existing injury I will need you to complete and 'Existing Injury Report Form' this is to protect the child and myself. If an injury was to occur in my care I am fully trained in paediatric first aid and will call to inform you as soon as possible.

## *Allie's Angels Childminding*

For more information please refer to my 'Accident, Illness and Injury Policy'.

I must notify MARAT of any allegations of abuse as soon as possible by telephone and on their advice complete the referral form within 48 hours. This applies to allegations made towards myself and anyone else in my family. I will then notify OFSTED of the allegation and inform them of the action being taken.

MARAT stands for Multi Agency Referral and Assessment Team and they are the first point of contact for Trafford's children and young people's service. They accept referrals for children and young people that are deemed to be in need of support and also deal with Child Protection enquiries where appropriate.

When I have visitors into my setting I have a procedure to keep children safe. All visitors must sign in and have a valid reason for visiting, turn their mobile phone off and no cameras are permitted. I may take observational photos of your child to show their development, I will always ask you to complete a permission form and any photos will be stored correctly and safely along with the child's record in accordance with the 'Data Protection Act'.

I will **NEVER** leave your child alone with a visitor no matter what their position.

I will always ensure that children's rights and needs are priority and that they are respected as it states in the 'Children Act 2004' and the 'Equality Act 2004'.

The EYFS also provides the safeguarding and welfare requirements that I will follow to ensure the safety and developmental needs of the children in my care.

We need to work together to protect children and if you have any concerns regarding your or any other child's safety or developmental needs please don't hesitate to contact me.

## *Allie's Angels Childminding*

### **Useful Telephone Numbers**

MARAT – General Enquiries 8.30am – 4.30pm Mon – Fri	0161 912 5125
MARAT Email	marat@trafford.gov.uk
Local Police Station	0161 872 5050 or 101
OFSTED – Helpline	0300 123 1231
OFSTED – Complaints	0300 123 4666
PACEY	0845 880 0044
NSPCC Child Protection Helpline 24 Hours	0808 800 5000
Childline	0800 1111