



POLICY STATEMENT ON CHILD PROTECTION

A Child Protection Policy is required under the Act. Because this may sometimes be a sensitive issue, we give two sample policies which are widely different. Either of these could be used as a model for your nursery.

The Nursery has a duty to be aware that abuse does occur in our society. This statement lays out the procedures that will be taken if we have a reason to believe that a child in our care is subject to either emotional, physical or sexual abuse or neglect.

Our prime responsibility is the welfare and well being of all children in our care. As such we believe we have a duty to the children, parents/main carers and staff to act quickly and responsibly in any instance that may come to our attention.

The Nursery has a duty to report any suspicions around abuse to the Local Authority. The Children Act of 1989 (Section 47(l)) places a duty on the Local Authority to investigate such matters. The Nursery will follow the procedures set out in the Local Authority Child Protection Documents and as such will seek their advice on all steps taken subsequently.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Action will be taken under this heading if the staff have reason to believe that there has been a physical injury to a child, including deliberate poisoning, where there is definite knowledge, or a reasonable suspicion that the injury was inflicted or knowingly not prevented.

