

Early Years Safeguarding Audit

Dear Early Years Provider,

Please find below the link to the 2020 Early Years Safeguarding Audit:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/S175audit/>

All early education and childcare settings have legal and statutory duties to review the effectiveness of their safeguarding practice and processes. As a named relevant agency under the Local Safeguarding Partnership (KBSP), early years settings also have duties to collaborate and share information to promote the safety and welfare for children in the Local Authority. Therefore we are encouraging all providers to complete this audit, we have attempted to make changes to the audit to be more of a supportive process rather than a regulatory one.

Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility and not just that of the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Effective safeguarding takes a team approach and will support sustainability if colleagues are incapacitated or have other competing priorities. The DSL, Senior Leadership Team and all members of any governance arrangements all have responsibilities and we encourage you to 'delegate and collaborate' when completing the audit. We believe the audit should not be about 'ticking a box' but based on constructive conversations and reflection on the effectiveness of practice.

The pandemic has created new vulnerabilities and exacerbated existing need for many of your children and families. The audit's contents have been written to reflect how settings manage some of the practice to prevent and safeguard against local and national issues (E.g., child exploitation, domestic abuse, mental health, developing trauma informed practice and young carers).

The data you provide helps us consider where we prioritise our resources for the workforce.

Please can you ensure your audit is completed and submitted by Friday 12th February 2021.

If you have any questions please email them to askcyps@bristol.gov.uk and we will ensure the most relevant person contacts you.

Dawn Butler

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