

08 Staff, assistants, volunteers and students' policy

Alongside associated procedures in 08.1-08.4 Staff, volunteers and students, this policy was adopted by Emma Pell and Laura Norman on 01/09/2025

Aim

Staff at Cottontails Preschool are deployed to meet the care and learning needs of children and ensure their safety and well-being. There are effective systems in place to ensure that adults looking after children are suitable to do so.

Objectives

- Recruitment checks meet the requirements of the EYFS as stipulated in procedure 8.1
- All staff and volunteers who work more than occasionally with the children have enhanced DBS disclosure checks. All staff and volunteers working with children have appropriate training, skills, and knowledge.
- All staff and volunteers who live on the premises on which the childcare is provided (unless there is no access to the part of the premises when and where children are cared for) and/or works on the premises on which the childcare is provided (unless they do not work on the part of the premises where the childcare takes place, or do not work there at times when children are present) have enhanced criminal records checks and barred list checks. If any caution or convictions appear or are disclosed, then the DfE statutory guidance is followed.
- No individuals will be allowed to begin working or volunteering at the setting until the enhanced criminal records check and barred list check have been received.
- All staff and prospective staff, students and volunteers are expected to disclose any information that may affect their suitability to work with children including, but not limited to, arrests, charges, convictions, cautions, court orders, reprimands and warnings (whether received before or during their employment/placement at the setting)
- All staff, students and volunteers are deployed in accordance with the procedures.
- There is a complaints procedure and staff, and volunteers know how to complain and who they complain to.
- There is a whistleblowing procedure for all staff, students and volunteers to raise any concerns they may have.
- Ofsted are notified of staff changes or changes to the setting's name or address.
- Parents/carers are involved with their children's learning and their views are considered.

Legal references

Protection of Children Act 1999

Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006

Childcare Act 2006