

## **PEACE Childcare Child Protection Statement**

Child abuse – (“The wrongful application of power by someone in a dominant position” - Lord Clyde 1991). The abuse of children can take many forms and involves elements of a power imbalance, exploitation and absence of true consent whether they concern acts of commission or omission.

PEACE Childcare aims

- To ensure the protection of children and young people always comes first
- To safeguard the rights, well-being and safety of every child and young person with whom we work within the principles and standards of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Human Rights Act, The Children’s(Scotland) Act 1995, the Police(Scotland) Act 1967, the Criminal Procedure(Scotland) Act 1995 – Schedule 1 and any other current legislation.

PEACE Childcare is committed to:

- The child’s right to protection, provision, involvement and information
- High standards of service
- Promoting positive relationships
- Encouraging and enabling children and young people

PEACE Childcare will ensure:

- The protection of children and young people is a priority
- Children/young people are listened to and valued
- Parents are supported and encouraged
- Everyone is treated with respect and sensitivity
- Staff are supported

PEACE Childcare will safeguard the well being of children/young people and minimise the risk of abuse by:

- Staff training to ensure staff are aware of their responsibilities and accountability regarding child protection
- Complying with PEACE Childcare Behavioural Policy
- Displaying good practice at all times
- Ensuring references are taken up, Disclosure Scotland and SSSC checks are carried out
- Require that staff complete a 3 month probationary period
- Ensure children/young people know they can raise concerns about a staff member to the Centre Manager or Services manager
- Listening to and reassuring the child/young person
- Explaining to the child/young person that you may need to share the disclosure of information with relevant people
- Relaying information to the appropriate authorities when necessary for the protection of the child/young person
- Maintain dialogue with relevant agencies for positive outcomes for the child/young person

If a child/young person is to be collected from OSC by an incapacitated person, or in the case of the Sitter Service, if the parent/carer returns home incapacitated:

- Contact the emergency contact
- If emergency contact is not available, contact East Ayrshire Social Work Dept on 01563 554200
- Inform Line Manager/Services Manager
- If the incapacitated person poses a threat, dial the police on 999

Retrospective Disclosure of Abuse by Adults:

- As relationships develop between parents/carers and staff, disclosures of childhood abuse may be given. PEACE Childcare will actively support any adult who wishes to make a retrospective complaint to the Police
- We will also work to establish whether any children in our care are at risk from the same perpetrator, and if there is suspicion, Police and Social Work will be informed

PEACE Childcare stresses the importance of building positive relationships with families. Children, young people, parents and carers should be treated with respect and sensitivity. It is vital to always consider the balance of rights between individuals concerned, to ensure proportionality in all circumstances and to record all actions fully at every stage.

**Reviewed Tuesday 16<sup>y</sup> February 2021**

**Signed ..... (Chairperson).....(Date)**