10 Ways to Create a Safer Play Environment for Children

1. Make safeguarding a priority in your setting. Remember, it is everyone's responsibility. Embed a culture of safeguarding, tackling it proactively. And, respond to any safeguarding concerns promptly, confidentially and professionally, following guidance.
2. Empower children to safeguard themselves. Talk to them about where they think are the best/safest places to play, least busy roads and what to do/where to go if they feel uncomfortable or in danger. Ensure that they understand that it is their right to be safe from harm/abuse and that they understand how they can get help and support.
3. Encourage children to play and stick together, particularly when outdoors and unsupervised, and discuss how they can look out for one another.
4. Explain how children should trust their own instincts. Signpost them to sources of support such as NSPCC.
5. Discuss the need for children to also keep themselves safe online. E-safety is an understanding of the potential dangers of the internet. With the right e-safety knowledge, children can better understand the dangers of releasing personal information, as well as how to recognise unethical behaviours or prevent cyberbullying. You should also have a digital safety policy within your setting with guidance on use of the Internet, photography, mobile phones by both children and staff. Visit Members | Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs, and Stepping Out for editable policies, procedures and forms.
6. Agree/discuss expected standards of behaviour of both staff/volunteers and children towards one another and the consequences of unacceptable behaviour.
7. Ensure your setting has a designated Safeguarding Officer, policy and procedure in line with Wales Safeguarding Procedures and review it regularly. Ensure everyone understands safeguarding: management, staff and volunteers. Organisations such as NCPCC provide self-assessment tools to identify potential gaps you may have in your safeguarding procedures.
8. Ensure staff access safeguarding training, regular continuing professional development to ensure they fully understand the latest threats to the welfare of children and young people, and sign up for alerts from relevant websites such as NSPCC and Social Care Wales Information Hub to keep themselves as up to date as possible.
9. Ensure there are procedures for safe recruitment of people working with children. Provide induction and supervision and clear ways for them to raise concerns about unacceptable behaviour by other staff/volunteers.
10. Undertake DBS (Disclosure barring service) checks, an important element of safeguarding, carried out by employers on staff and volunteers who will work with children. The process ensures that the potential employee is vetted against criminal records and other sources, including the Police National Computer (PNC).

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10 Ffordd o Greu Amgylchedd mwy Diogel i Blant

1. Gwnewch ddiogelu'n flaenoriaeth yn eich lleoliad. Cofiwch, y mae'n gyfrifoldeb ar bawb. Gwnewch yn sicr fod diwylliant diogelu wedi ei wreiddio yn eich lleoliad ac ewch ati'n rhagweithiol. Ymatebwch i unrhyw bryderon ynghylch diogelu yn brydlon, yn gyfrinachol ac yn broffesiynol, gan ddilyn yr arweiniad.
2. Rhowch y grym i blant ddiogelu eu hunain. Siaradwch â nhw am y lleoedd gorau/mwyaf diogel yn eu barn nhw i chwarae, yr heolydd lleiaf prysur, a beth i'w wneud/i ble i fynd os ydyn nhw'n teimlo'n anghysurus neu mewn perygl. Gwnewch yn siŵr eu bod yn deall bod ganddyn nhw hawl i fod yn ddiogel rhag niwed/camdriniaeth a'u bod yn deall sut y gallant gael help a chefnogaeth.
3. Anogwch blant i chwarae a chadw at ei gilydd yn enwedig pan fyddant y tu allan a heb oruchwyliaeth; trafodwch sut y gallan nhw ofalu am ei gilydd.
4. Esboniwch sut y dylai plant ymddiried yn eu teimladau greddfol eu hunain. Cyfeiriwch nhw at ffynonellau cefnogaeth megis yr NSPCC.
5. Trafodwch yr angen ar i blant hefyd gadw eu hunain yn ddiogel ar-lein. Mae e-ddiogelwch yn ddealltwriaeth o beryglon posibl y rhyngrwyd. Gyda'r wybodaeth gywir ar e-ddiogelwch, gall plant ddeall yn well beryglon rhyddhau gwybodaeth bersonol, ynghyd â sut i adnabod ymddygiadau anfoesegol, neu atal seibr-fwlio. Dylech hefyd fod â pholisi ar ddiogelwch digidol yn eich lleoliad, ac arweiniad ar y defnydd o'r Rhyngrwyd, ffotograffau, ffonau symudol gan y plant a'r staff. Ewch i Aelodau | Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs, a Camu Allan i weld polisïau, gweithdrefnau a ffurflenni y gellir eu golygu.
6. Cytunwch/trafodwch y safonau ymddygiad disgwyliedig gan staff/gwirfoddolwyr a phlant tuag at ei gilydd, a chanlyniadau ymddygiad annerbyniol.
7. Sicrhewch fod gan eich lleoliad Swyddog Diogelu dynodedig, polisi a gweithdrefn sy'n unol â Gweithdrefnau Diogelu Cymru ac adolygwch y rhain yn rheolaidd. Gwnewch yn sicr fod pawb yn deall diogelu: y rheolwyr, y staff a gwirfoddolwyr. Mae sefydliadau megis yr NCPCC yn darparu pecynnau cymorth ar hunanasesu er mwyn adnabod bylchau posibl a allai fod yn eich gweithdrefnau diogelu.
8. Gwnewch yn sicr fod gan staff fynediad at hyfforddiant mewn diogelu, a datblygiad proffesiynol parhaus, er mwyn sicrhau eu bod yn deall yn llawn y bygythiadau diweddaraf i les plant a phobl ifanc, a'u bod yn cofrestru i dderbyn rhybuddion o wefannau perthnasol megis yr NSPCC a Hyb Gwybodaeth Gofal Cymdeithasol Cymru i gadw'u hunain â'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf bosibl.
9. Gwnewch yn sicr fod gweithdrefnau yn eu lle ar gyfer recriwtio'n ddiogel bobl i weithio gyda phlant. Darparwch gyfnod sefydlu, goruchwyliadau a ffyrdd clir y gallan nhw godi pryderon ynghylch ymddygiad annerbyniol aelodau eraill o'r staff/gwirfoddolwyr.
10. Sicrhewch fod gwiriadau'r GDG (Gwasanaeth Datgelu a Gwahardd) yn cael eu cynnal, elfen bwysig o ddiogelu, i'w cynnal gan gyflogwyr ar staff a gwirfoddolwyr sy'n gweithio gyda phlant. Mae'r broses hon yn sicrhau bod cyflogai posibl yn cael ei fetio yn erbyn cofnodion troseddol a ffynonellau eraill, yn cynnwys Cyfrifiadur Cenedlaethol yr Heddlu (Police National Computer (PNC).

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