

I WANT TO KNOW – every child has the right to a safe childhood

Information for parents of preschool children.

Every child has the right to a safe childhood without violence, threats or sexual abuse. In Norway, that means that you can not hit a child or do them any harm on purpose. This is written in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and in the norwegian Children's Act (Barneloven):

Barn har rett til et liv uten vold og overgrep:

Barnekonvensjonen artikkel 19

(Children have the right to a life with no violence and abuse)

Foreldre har ikke lov til å bruke vold mot barn:

Barneloven § 30

(Parents are not allowed to use violence on children)

Bikubå barnehage cooperates with public Child Welfare to ensure that children do not experience any violence, neglect or abuse. The kindergarten is by law committed to notify Child Welfare if there is any suspicion of a child being exposed to this (§21 and 22 in the Children's Act). If there is any suspicion of neglect, parents will always be informed that we will contact Child Welfare about our concern before we contact Child Welfare. If there is any concern about a child being exposed to violence or sexual abuse, parents will not be informed before we contact Child Welfare. The staff in the kindergarten is then bound by law to contact Child Welfare without speaking to the parents first.

The foundation "Stine Sofies stiftelse" works to prevent children from growing up with violence and abuse. Here is the web page of the foundation:

http://stinesofiesstiftelse.no/index.php

The foundation has made an educational tool which will help children to know what is okay and what is not okay. They have arrangements for schools and day care centers adapted to the children's age, where they will give the children words and terms to let someone know when something is wrong. If you want to know more, you can read more about it on this web page: http://jegvilvite.no/

The purpose of the arrangement is:

- 1. After the conversation, children should know what violence and abuse is.
- 2. The children will know where to go when they need help.
- 3. Children should understand that it is never the children's fault when adults expose them to violence or abuse.
- 4. The children should be able to dial the number of the alarm phone 116 111

Bikubå Kindergarten are participants of the "I want to know/Jeg vil vite" program. This program will be performed once in the course of a kindergarten year. You, as parents or guardiancies, have now been informed that this program will be performed.