



# Non-Collection of Child Policy

### STATEMENT OF INTENT

*In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult at the end of a pre-school session/day, the pre-school puts into practice agreed procedures. These ensure the child is cared for safely by an experienced and qualified practitioner who is known to the child.*

### AIM

In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult, we will ensure that the child receives a high standard of care in order to cause as little distress as possible. We inform parents/carers of our procedures so that, if they are unavoidably delayed, they will be reassured that their children will be properly cared for.

### PROCEDURES

1. Parents of children starting at the pre-school are asked to provide specific information which is recorded on our Registration Form, including:
  - a. home address and telephone number - if the parents do not have a telephone, an alternative number must be given, perhaps a neighbour's place of work, address and telephone number (if applicable);
  - b. mobile telephone number (if applicable);
  - c. names, addresses, telephone numbers of adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their child from pre-school, for example a child-minder or grandparent; and
  - d. information about any person who does not have legal access to the child.
2. On occasions when parents are aware that they will not be at home or in their usual place of work, they record how they can be contacted in our Collection Book.
3. On occasions when parents or the persons normally authorised to collect the child are not able to collect the child, they record the name and telephone number of the person who will be collecting their child in our Collection Book. We agree with parents how the identification of the person who is to collect their child will be verified, usually in the form of a password.
4. Parents are informed that if they are not able to collect the child as planned, they must inform us so that we can begin back-up procedures. We provide parents with our contact telephone number. We also inform parents that - in the event that their children are not collected from pre-school by an authorised adult and the staff can no longer supervise the child in our premises - we apply our child protection procedures as set out in our safeguarding children protection policy.
5. The authorised person nominated by the parent to collect their child must be able to quote the child's address, their address, as supplied by the parent, and a pre-agreed password supplied by the parent on arrival. If the named adult is unable to supply any of the information, the child will not be released to them and the parent contacted. Should the parent not be available, the safeguarding children policies regarding non-collection of children will be put into place.



## Policies and Procedures

### Section 14

6. If a child is not collected at the end of the session/day, we follow the following procedures:
- if no information is available, parents/carers are contacted at home or at work;
  - if this is unsuccessful, the adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their child from pre-school - and whose telephone numbers are recorded on the Registration Form - are contacted;
  - all reasonable attempts are made to contact the parents/carers, for example a neighbour is contacted;
  - the child stays at pre-school in the care of two fully-vetted workers until the child is safely collected;
  - the child does not leave the premises with anyone other than those named on the Registration Form and in the Collection Book;
  - if no-one collects the child and the premises are closing, or staff are no longer available to care for the child and we have no explanation as to why your child has not been collected, two members of staff will wait for 30 minutes and then apply the Safeguarding Children Policy. We contact our local authority social services department (MASH) telephone number 0300 126 7000 and inform Ofsted - telephone number 0300 123 1231;
  - a full written report of the incident is recorded; and
  - depending on circumstances, we reserve the right to charge parents for the additional hours worked by our staff.

Date policy adopted / reviewed June 2021

Signed on behalf of the management committee \_\_\_\_\_

Name and position of signatory Denise Smith, Chair

Policy review date June 2022

**I have read and understood the policy:**

**Signature**

**Print Name:**

**Date:**

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# Policies and Procedures

## Section 14
