

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Child Protection

Providers must have and implement a policy, and procedures to safeguard children.



Uncollected Child

Policy Statement

In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult at the end of a 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. The child will receive 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.

EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.3 Keeping safe 1.4 Health and well-being	2.2 Parents as partners	3.4 The wider context	

Procedures

- Parents of children starting at the Pre-School are asked to provide the following specific information which is recorded on our Registration Form:
- Home address and telephone number - if the parents do not have a telephone, an alternative number must be given, perhaps a neighbour or close relative.
- Place of work, address and telephone number (if applicable).
- Mobile telephone number (if applicable).
- Names, addresses, telephone numbers and signatures of adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their child from the Pre-School, for example a childminder or grandparent.
- Who has parental responsibility for the child.
- Information about any person who does not have legal access to the child.
- On occasions when parents are aware that they will not be at home or in their usual place of work, they inform us in writing of how they can be contacted.

- On occasions when parents or the persons normally authorised to collect the child are not able to collect the child, they provide us with written details of the name, address and telephone number of the person who will be collecting their child. We agree with parents how to verify the identity of the person who is to collect their child usually in the form of a password.
- Parents are informed that if they are not able to collect the child as planned, they must inform us so that we can begin to take back-up measures. We provide parents with our contact telephone number.
- We inform parents that we apply our child protection procedures as set out in our child protection policy in the event that their children are not collected from Pre-School by an authorised adult within one hour after the Pre-School has closed and the staff can no longer supervise the child on our premises.
- If a child is not collected at the end of the session/day, we follow the following procedures:
- The child's file is checked for any information about changes to the normal collection routines.
- 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 the Pre-School - and whose telephone numbers are recorded on the Registration Form - are contacted.
- All reasonable attempts are made to contact the parents or nominated carers.
- The child does not leave the premises with anyone other than those named on the Registration Form or in their file.
- If no-one collects the child within 30 minutes of their expected collection time and there is no named contact who can be contacted to collect the child, we apply the procedures for uncollected children.
- If we have any cause to believe the child has been abandoned [we/I] contact the local authority children's social care team:

- If the children's social care team is unavailable [or as our local authority advise] we will contact the local police
 - **Essex Police (999 or 112)**

- Or the out of hours duty officer (where applicable):

- **Emergency Duty Service (Immediate Out of Hours Response) No: 0345 606 1212**

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- We contact our local authority children's social services care team:

Essex Effective Support (The Family Operations Hub) ☎ 0345 603 7627
Emergency Duty Services (Out of Office hours) ☎ 0345 606 1212

- After an additional 15 minutes if the child has not been collected, we will contact the above statutory agencies again.

- The child stays at Pre-School in the care of two fully vetted workers until the child is safely collected either by the parents or by a social care worker, or by another person specified by social care.
- Social Care will aim to find the parent or relative if they are unable to do so, the child will become looked after by the local authority.
- Under no circumstances do staff to go look for the parent, nor do they take the child home with them.
- We ensure that the child is not anxious, and we do not discuss our concerns in front of them.
- A full written report of the incident is recorded in the child's file.
- Depending on circumstances, we reserve the right to charge parents for the additional hours worked by our staff.
- Ofsted may be informed. Telephone No. ☎ **0300 123 1231**.
- Children should be collected promptly. Late collection over 10 minutes may result in additional fees being charged.
- The local Early Years Alliance office/Development Worker may also be informed:
Telephone No. ☎

Further information

- Safeguarding Children (Pre-school Learning Alliance 2013)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Langham Pre-School held on 1st June 2020

Signed on behalf of the Management:-

----- **Trustee Faye Mallett** Date 01/06/2020

----- **Manager Maria Bukovenczki** Date 01/06/2020

Date to be reviewed: **May 2021**

