

Mogghill Nursery School

Non-collection of Children Policy

Statement of intent:

In the event that a child is not collected, by an authorised adult at the end of a preschool session, Mogghill Nursery School puts into practice agreed procedures. These ensure that the child is cared for safely, by an experienced and qualified practitioner who is known to the child.

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 our setting are asked to provide specific information which is recorded on their registration form, including:

- Home address and telephone number - if the parents do not have a telephone, an alternative number must be given, perhaps a neighbour
- Place of work, address and telephone number (if applicable)
- Mobile telephone number (if applicable)
- Names, addresses, telephone numbers and signatures of at least two adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their child from preschool, for example a childminder or grandparent
- Any 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 the daily diary

3. On occasions when parents or the person normally authorised to collect the child are not able to collect the child, they record the name, address and telephone number of the person who will be collecting their child in our daily diary. We agree with the parent how the identification of the person who is to collect their child will be verified.

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 to take back-up procedures. We provide parents with our contact number. We also inform parents that - in the event that their children are not collected from preschool by an authorised adult and the staff can no longer supervise the child on our premises - we apply our child protection procedures as set out in our safeguarding children policy.

5. If a child is not collected at the end of the session, we follow the following procedures:

- The daily diary is checked for any information about changes to the normal collection routines.
- If no information is available, parents/carers are contacted at home or work.
- If this is unsuccessful, the adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their child from the setting - 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 and in the daily diary.
- If no-one collects the child after one hour and there is no-one who can be contacted to collect the child, we apply the procedures for uncollected children.
- We contact our local authority children's social care team in Frome.
- The child stays at the setting in the care of two fully vetted workers until the child is safely collected by the parents or by a social worker.
- Social services will aim to find the parent or relative. If they are unable to do so the child will be admitted into the care of the local authority.
- Under no circumstances are staff to go to look for the parent, nor do they take the child home with them.
- A full report of the incident is recorded in the child's file.
- Depending on circumstances, we reserve the right to charge the parents for the additional hours worked by our staff.
- Ofsted may be informed (telephone number 0300 1231231)

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