

## **Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Child Protection**

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

### **Uncollected child Policy**

#### **Policy statement**

In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult by their expected collection time, we put into practice agreed procedures. 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.

#### **Procedures**

- Parents are asked to provide the following specific information when their child starts attending our setting, which is recorded on Little Gregs 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 of two Emergency contacts
  - 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 on the door 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 details of the name of the person who will be collecting their child. We ask them to provide the password for the child.
- Parents are informed that if they are not able to collect the child as planned, they must inform by telephone so that we can begin to take back-up measures.
- If a child is not collected at their expected collection time, we follow the procedures below:
- **After 15 Mins**
  - The daily message sheets are 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 be the Emergency contacts- 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.

- **After 30 mins**

- **The DSL must be contacted by Pre School staff**

- 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.
- Which is we will contact Children and Families 'Front Door' for advice.

- **After 45 mins**

- After an additional 15 minutes if the child has not been collected, we will contact the above statutory agencies again.
  - The child stays at the setting in the care of two of our fully-vetted workers, one of whom will be our manager or deputy manager 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 will we go to look for the parent, nor leave the setting premises with the child.
  - 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.
  - Ofsted may be informed of the incident.
  - If there are recurring incidents of late collection, a meeting is arranged with the parents to agree a plan to improve time-keeping and identify any further support that may be required.