

Banwell Buddies 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 session, the setting 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.

Methods

- Parent/carer's of children starting at the setting are asked to provide specific information which is recorded on our 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 or close relative;
 - place of work, address and telephone number (if applicable);
 - mobile telephone number (if applicable);
 - names, addresses, telephone numbers of adults who are authorised by the parent/carer's to collect their child from the setting, for example a childminder or grandparent;
 - information about any person who does not have legal access to the child;
 - who has parental responsibility for the child.
- On occasions when parent/carer's are aware that they will not be at home or in their usual place of work, they record how they can be contacted on our signing in sheet.
- On occasions when parent/carer's 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 on our signing in sheet. We agree with parent/carer's how to verify the identity of the person who is to collect their child.
- Parent/carer's 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 parent/carer's with our contact telephone number. We also inform parent/carer's that - in the event that their children are not collected from setting 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 child protection policy.
- If a child is not collected at the end of the session, we follow the following procedures:
 - The signing in sheet 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 parent/carer's 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 parent/carer's or nominated carers.
- The child does not leave the premises with anyone other than those named on the Registration Form and on the signing in sheet.
- 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 inform the North Somerset Safeguarding Children Board (NSSCB) on 01275 888266.
- The child stays at setting in the care of two fully-vetted workers until the child is safely collected either by the parent/carer's or by a social worker;
- Social services will aim to find the parent/carer or relative if they are unable to do so, the child will be admitted into the care of the local authority.
- Under no circumstances will staff go to look for the parent, nor do they take the child home with them.
- A full written report of the incident is recorded in the child's file.
- Depending on circumstances, we reserve the right to charge parent/carer's for the additional hours worked by our staff. Charges will be implemented after the first fifteen minutes the child remains uncollected and for every subsequent fifteen minutes. Charges are as follows: **Pre-School: £13.50 per 15 minutes.**
- Ofsted may be informed by telephone on 08456 404040.
- Our Childcare Development Worker may also be informed on 01934 888888.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of _____

Held on _____

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee _____

Role of signatory _____