



**NON-COLLECTION OF CHILDREN POLICY**  
**(part of our Safeguarding Children policies)**

**Statement of intent**

In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult at the end of a session/day, 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**

- Parents of children starting at our school are asked to provide specific information which is recorded on our Individual Pupil 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 and telephone numbers of adults who are authorised by the parents 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; and
  - who has parental responsibility for the child.
- 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 Alternative Pupil Collection Arrangements File.
- On occasions when parents or the persons 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 Alternative Pupil Collection Arrangements File. We agree with parents how to verify the identity of the person who is to collect their child.
- Parents are informed that if they are not able to collect their child as planned, they must inform us so that we can begin to take back-up procedures. We provide parents with our contact telephone number including a school mobile number. We also inform parents 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 have to 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/day, we follow the following procedures:
  - The Alternative Pupil Collection Arrangements 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 setting - and whose telephone numbers are recorded on the Individual Pupil Registration Form - are contacted.
  - If this is unsuccessful, we will contact any additional adults listed on the Individual Pupil Registration Form as emergency contacts.
  - 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 Individual Pupil Registration Form and in the Alternative Pupil Collection Arrangements File, unless we are informed over the telephone with the password, by the parent that another adult can come and collect.
  - 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 social services department (telephone number 020 8359 4066).
  - The child stays at school in the care of two fully-vetted workers until s/he is safely collected either 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 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.

**Sara Harris (Headteacher)**

**Signed: *Sara J. Harris* (Headteacher) *Eddy Breuer-Weil* (Chair of Governors)**

**Date: June 2007**