

## **05. UNCOLLECTED CHILD**

### **Policy statement**

In the event that an authorised adult does not collect a child 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 ASK Kindergarten (ASK), 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.
  - Names, addresses, telephone numbers and signatures of adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their child from ASK, 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 ASK 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 ASK 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.
- 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. Our contact telephone number is: 07306 086666.
- If a child is not collected at their expected collection time, we follow the procedures below:
  - The child's file is checked for any information about changes to the normal collection routines. This includes checking emails, text messages and voicemail.

- If no information is available, we will try to contact parents/carers by mobile telephone. If there is no reply, we will call the home telephone number followed by the work telephone number.
- If these are unsuccessful, the adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their child - 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 one who can be contacted to collect the child, we apply the procedures for uncollected children.

We contact the local authority children's social care team: 020 8583 2222

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- If the children's social care team is unavailable we will contact the local police.  
Isleworth Policing team: 101
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- After an additional 15 minutes, if the child has not been collected, we will contact the above statutory agencies again.
  - The child stays at ASK 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 local authority will look after the child.
  - Under no circumstances will we go to look for the parent, nor leave ASK's 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: 0300 123 3156

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This policy was adopted by: ASK Kindergarten

On: May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Date to be reviewed: May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Signatory: Mark Stewart

Role of Signatory: Owner & Ofsted Registered Provider