



Hail Weston Pre-School, The Village Hall, High Street, Hail Weston, Cambs. PE19 5JS, Tel: 01480 214574

## Uncollected Child Policy

### Policy statement

In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult at the end of a session/day, Hail Weston Pre-School Activity Group (HWPAG) 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. 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

- Parents of children starting at HWPAG are asked to provide the following specific information 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 (if applicable).
  - Names, addresses, telephone numbers of adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their child from the pre-school, for example a childminder or grandparent.
  - A picture of any different person picking up a child together with a password.
  - 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 in writing or verbally 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 and relationship to the child 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 do not collect their child as planned, that we will begin to take back-up measures.
- We inform parents that we apply our child protection procedures as set out in our child protection policy in the event that their children are not collected from pre-school by an authorised adult within one hour after the pre-school has closed and the staff can no longer supervise the child on our premises.
- If a child is not collected at the end of the session, we use the following procedures:
  - The child's 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 HWPAG - 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 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 services care team at the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on: 0345 0451362, and inform Ofsted on 0300 123 1231.**
  - The child stays at HWPAG in the care of two fully-vetted workers until the child is safely collected either by the parents or by a social care worker.
  - 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** do staff members 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.

***This policy was adopted at a committee meeting of HAIL WESTON PRE-SCHOOL ACTIVITY GROUP held on January 2020***

Date to be reviewed: January 2021

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:.

Lizzie Spear

Signatory:.....

Role of signatory: Chairperson