82 Late Collection and Non-Collection

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| EYFS: 3.4, 3.7, 3.63 |

At **New Studio Preschool** we have morning, and all-day sessions. Parents are able to collect their child from the preschool flexibly within this time period asking them to be no later than the session end time, for example if they attend the morning session, we expect children to be collected no later than 12pm, and all-day session no later than 3pm.

We understand that some parents may arrive earlier to collect their child, this is acceptable. However, the full fees still remain in place for the allocated session times.

We give parents information about the procedures to follow if they expect to be late. These include:

* Calling the preschool as soon as possible to advise of their situation and expected time of arrival
* Agreeing a safety password with the preschool in advance to be used by anyone collecting a child who is not the parent (designated adult)
* Asking a designated adult to collect their child wherever possible
* Informing the preschool of this person’s identity so the nursery can talk to the child if appropriate. This will help to reduce or eliminate any distress caused by this situation
* If the designated person is not known to the preschool staff, the parent must provide a detailed description of this person, including their date of birth where known. This designated person must know the individual child’s safety password in order for the preschool to release the child into their care. This is the responsibility of the parent.

If a child has not been collected from the preschool after a reasonable amount of time **30 minutes** has been allowed for lateness, we initiate the following procedure:

* The manager will be informed that a child has not been collected
* The manager will check for any information regarding changes to normal routines, parents’ work patterns or general information. If there is no information recorded, the manager will try to contact the parents on the telephone numbers provided for their mobile, home or work. If this fails the manager will try the emergency contacts shown on the child’s records
* The manager/staff member in charge and one other member of staff must stay behind with the child (if outside normal operating hours). During normal operating times, the preschool will plan to meet required staff ratios. If the parents have still not collected the child, the manager will telephone all contact numbers available every 10 minutes until contact is made. These calls will be logged on a full incident record
* In the event of no contact being made after one hour has lapsed, the person in charge will ring the local authority children’s social services emergency duty team
* The preschool will inform Ofsted as soon as convenient
* The two members of staff will remain in the building until suitable arrangements have been made for the collection of the child
* The child’s welfare and needs will be met at all times and to minimise distress staff will distract, comfort and reassure the child during the process

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| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date for review** |
| *8/3/2022* |  | *February 2023* |