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Atherstone & Bedworth Heath Maintained Nursery Schools and Warwickshire Early Years Hub

Uncollected Child

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Approved by Governors			
Revision Due: November 2019	Date:	Head teacher	Chair of Governors
	November 2019	Nicci Burton	D Wainwright
Revision Due: November 2020	Date:	Head teacher	Governing Body Representative
	November 2020	Nicci Burton	D Wainwright
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	November 2022	Nicci Burton	W Dodd
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	November 2023	Nicci Burton	W Dodd

Rationale

There are always the odd occasions when a parent or carer is held up, or an emergency occurs and they are not able to collect a child on time, due to circumstances beyond their control. We are sympathetic to these facts of life and will always seek to support families and provide a safe and secure environment for an uncollected child. If possible we would ask you to advise us that you will be late, in order that we can reassure your child.

However, when there is persistent late collection we see an impact upon a child's emotional well-being and levels of distress. It also becomes difficult for staff to meet the full requirements of their duties and the quality of provision for the other children can suffer as a result.

The policy below outlines the procedures we follow when a child is not collected on time

UNCOLLECTED CHILDREN

All collections of children should be guided by the general procedure in that children may only be collected by a recognised person documented on the admission forms, unless prior permission has been given. A password must be given to the named person collecting and the school. A different password must be provided on each occasion. In an emergency a phone call specifying a named person and physical description will be accepted if the child also recognises the adult.

In the event of a child being uncollected at the end of session, staff will follow this procedure:

- 1. Two members of staff to stay on premises.
- 2. Staff to ensure at all times that the child feels secure and happy and is occupied.
- 3. After 10 minutes staff will telephone Parents/Carers home, mobile or work number
- 4. If this is unsuccessful staff will ring the contact number of the next of kin on the data sheet.
- 5. Staff will wait for 30 minutes ensuring phone lines are free.
- 6. If there is no contact after 30 minutes, staff should phone the Head Teacher/Senior Leader to agree the next steps (if they are not already on site).
- 7. Staff will then, usually, contact the duty officer at Social Services who will arrange for the safe collection of the child.

Please note: It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure that we have your up to date details and 3 emergency contacts that are also up to date. We also use these contacts to monitor non-attendance/absence.

Late Collection Charge

Parents/Carers who are more than 10 minutes late, without contacting the school with a valid reason, will be charged a late collection fee of £6.00. For every 15 minutes thereafter a further £6.00 will be added. Staff have numerous commitments, both between sessions and at the end of the day, and a timely collection of children is required.

Children will always be looked after by a member of the team to keep them safe. However, failure to collect alongside the school being unable to contact any of the listed contacts for that child, will lead to the Local Children's Team being contacted after a delay of 45 minutes has arisen.

Also see written guidance for 'Emergency Collection of Pupils'