79. Late Collection and Non-Collection Policy

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| EYFS: 3.73 |

At Guildford Montessori Nursery School, The Spike and Guildford Montessori Nursery School, All Saints we expect all parents to agree an approximate time to collect their child from the nursery school. We give parents information about the procedures to follow if they expect to be late. These include:

* Agreeing a safety password with the nursery school in advance to be used by anyone collecting a child who is not the parent (designated adult)
* Calling the nursery school as soon as possible to advise of their situation
* Asking a designated adult to collect their child wherever possible
* Informing the nursery school of this person’s identity so the nursery staff 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 nursery 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 nursery to release the child into their care. This is the responsibility of the parent.

If a child has not been collected from the nursery after a reasonable amount of time **15 minutes** has been allowed for lateness, we initiate the following procedure:

* The nursery school 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 nursery school 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 Surrey Children’s Single Point of Access or SSCB children’s services emergency duty team
* The nursery school 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
* In order to provide this additional care a late fee of £15 for every 15 minutes will be charged to parents. This will pay for any additional operational costs that caring for a child outside their normal nursery school hours may incur.

**Contact numbers:**

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| **Name** | **Contact No** |
| SSCB Emergency Duty Team | 01483 517 898 |
| Surrey Children’s Single Point of Access | 03004709100 |
| Ofsted  | 0300 123 1231 |

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| **This policy was adopted on** | **Signed on behalf of the nursery** | **Date for review** |
| *28th February 2023* | *E.Buchholdt* | *March 2024* |