

06 Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults procedures

06.4 Uncollected child

If a child is not collected by closing time, or the end of the session and there has been no contact from the parent, or there are concerns about the child's welfare then this procedure is followed.

- The designated lead person and designated officer are informed of the uncollected child as soon as possible and attempts to contact the parents by phone.
- If the parents cannot be contacted, the designated lead person or designated officer uses the emergency contacts to inform a known carer of the situation and arrange collection of the child, these emergency contacts must be local, contactable, and able to collect if the parents are unable to.
- After one hour, the designated lead person or designated officer contacts the local social care out-of-hours duty officer (0300 555 1373) if the parents or other known carer cannot be contacted and there are concerns about the child's welfare or the welfare of the parents.
- The designated lead person or designated officer should arrange for the collection of the child by social care.
- Where appropriate the designated lead person or designated officer should also notify police.

Members of staff do not:

- go off the premises to look for the parents
- leave the premises to take the child home or to a carer
- offer to take the child home with them to care for them in their own home until contact with the parent is made
- Staff make a record of the incident in the child's file. A record of conversations with parents should be made, with parents being asked to sign and date the recording.
- This is logged on the child's personal file along with the actions taken. 06.1c Confidential safeguarding incident report form should also be completed if there are safeguarding and welfare concerns about the child, or if Social Care have been involved due to the late collection.
- Depending on circumstances, we reserve the right to charge parents for the additional hours worked.
- If there are recurring incidents of late collection, a meeting is arranged with the parents to agree a plan to improve timekeeping and identify any further support that may be required.