

# Avenue Pre-Preparatory School and Nursery

## Collection of Children

Date of policy: September 2021

Date of policy review: September 2022

Authorised by Mary Fysh, Principal and Martin Ayres, Chair of Advisory Board

### COLLECTION OF CHILDREN

#### RATIONALE

At the Avenue Nursery and Pre-Preparatory School (The School) we regard the safety of all the children in our care as paramount. We have stringent measures in place and a high staff/child ratio enabling all children to be carefully supervised at all times. In particular, we have a clearly defined procedure relating to the children entering and leaving the School, as follows:

#### PROCEDURE WHEN THE CHILD ARRIVES AT SCHOOL

1. A member of staff will be wearing a high visibility jacket at the pavement gate at the start of each session to ensure that no child leaves the premises.
2. The adult bringing the child to School completes the "Collect" list at the beginning of every session, informing us as to who will be collecting the child.
3. If a child is to be collected by another parent of a child at the School, the "Collect" list should be signed by the adult who brings the child to School, not by the collecting adult.
4. If a change to the collection arrangements occurs after the sheet has been signed, the parent/carer must contact the school and give details of any revised arrangements.
5. If the revisions involve someone who has not been to the School before (and is therefore not known to any member of staff) a 'password' is agreed between the School and parent. This password must be given by the adult picking up the child before he/she is allowed to take the child off the premises.
6. The revised collection arrangements are noted on the "Collect" list, to inform the member of staff who is seeing the children off the School premises at the end of the session.
7. Anyone collecting who is unknown to the school should be brought to the school on a previous occasion and introduced and the school informed in writing.

### CHILDREN ARRIVING LATE

If a child arrives at the School after the classes have started (and the side and front doors are locked) parents are asked to ring the front door bell for a member of staff to let their child into school. The “Late Arrival/Return to School” book (which is kept by the front door) MUST be completed by the person dropping the child off. The staff member dealing with the late arrival is responsible for updating the “Collect” form with the name of the person picking the child up.

### CHILDREN LEAVING BEFORE THE END OF THE SESSION

If any child leaves the School before the end of the session the “Leaving School Early/During the Course of the School Day” form MUST be completed when the child is collected. This is to include whether or not the child is returning to School that day. In addition, the “Collect” form must be updated if the child is NOT returning to School.

### PROCEDURE AT THE END OF THE SESSION

1. A member of staff will be wearing a high visibility jacket at the pavement gate at going home time to ensure that no child leaves the premises unaccompanied.
2. The children collect their coats/ bags from the cloakroom, replace their photograph card in their trays (Nursery) and are seated before the front or side doors are opened. – no child should be in the toilets or by the photograph board/pegs.
3. Morning Nursery leave by the side door every day. They are seated on the carpet adjacent to the Hall when it is time to go home. A member of staff who is in the room with the children calls out each child’s name when the staff member at the side door confirms that his/her parent/carer is ready to collect their child.
4. The Reception children leave from the front door every day. They wait in the downstairs Literacy classroom to be called when their parent/carer arrives.
5. Year 1 and 2 children leave by the side door every day.
6. The Afternoon Nursery children are seated on the carpet adjacent to the Hall when it is time to go home and they leave from the side door. The member of staff who is in the room with the children calls out each child’s name when the staff member at the side door confirms that his/her parent/carer is ready to collect their child.
7. A member of staff will be by the front/side door to supervise the children leaving the School premises and ensure they are in the care of the adult specified as the ‘pick up’ that day. The child’s name on the “Collect” list is ‘ticked’ to confirm that the child has been picked up by the designated person
8. If an adult (who is not named on the “Collect” list) asks to pick up a child (not their own), the School will contact the parent to confirm the situation, even if the adult concerned is known to the school.
9. If parents of a child are known to be separated/divorced, the School will ask for confirmation as to which of the parents have ‘parental responsibility’ with regard to the child and whether both parents are able to collect the child from school.
10. Children will be called singly and not in pairs. This may take longer and the parents are asked to be patient in this matter.
11. The parents are asked to leave the premises promptly after collecting their child, to aid congestion around the front and side doors.
12. If a parent needs to speak to a member of staff, they are asked not to speak to the member of staff who is at the door. The parent is asked to wait at the side door after picking up their child until the parents and children have left and a member of staff is free to attend to the query.

