



Lost Child Policy

Policy Created: 18th June 2024

This policy is reviewed on an annual basis. To be reviewed by June 2025

The safety of your child is paramount and I will always try to ensure that they remain with me at all times.

In the unlikely event of a child going missing or becoming 'lost' whilst in my care I will take the following steps:

I will immediately raise the alarm to all around me that I have lost a child and enlist the help of everyone to look for them

If it is a secure area such as a shopping centre, I will quickly alert the security staff so they can assist me in looking for the child / check the CCTV.

I will provide everyone involved in the search with a description of the child.

I will reassure the other children with me, as they may be distressed. If possible I will leave the children with a responsible person that I know has been DBS checked, for example, another registered childminder, while I continue to look for the missing child.

If the child is not found in the immediate area within 10 minutes, I will then alert the police and provide a full description and look for a recent photograph.

I will alert the parents of the situation and continue to help on the advice of the police.

I take the following precautions to avoid situations like this from happening:

Undertaking regular risk assessment of my home and of any visits/trips undertaken in advance.

Ensuring all exterior doors, safety gates, garden gates and fences are secured in and around my home.

Ensuring small children hold my hand or the pushchair whilst we are out.

Avoid going to places that are overcrowded.

Teach the children about how best to stay safe and discuss with them the dangers of wandering off and of talking to strangers. Encourage them to stay with me at all times.

Whilst at Playgroup, ensure that we stay in the same room at all times, taking the children to the toilet/ kitchen as a group.

Teach the children how best to be found. i.e. have a safety plan when visiting somewhere new including a safe meeting space planned with them as much as possible.

Wherever possible, children will wear a wristband when out with my details and number on it.

Teach them Stop, Find a safe space, Call my name,