



Visitors & Intruder Policy

Statement of Intent

As part of the preschool day we will have visitors to The Spring Montessori for many reasons ranging from NVQ Assessors to Early Years and Childcare Service Advisors. This policy is in place to ensure the safety of the children as well as the staff remains a priority at all times when visitors are onsite. The preschool believes that the safety of the children and staff in our setting is of paramount importance. We make every effort to keep our setting secure from intruders.

Visitor Procedure

Method:

Any visitors to the nursery can only gain access via the main door, by ringing the video intercom system, ensuring we are able to see who it is as at the door before opening it, for maximum security, the door is kept bolted at all times. The back door leading to the porch is also kept bolted during nursery hours. Visitors must state what the purpose of the visit is or whom they are coming to see and provide identification. This identification should be validated if a member of staff is at all unsure. This should be done by telephoning the department the visitor represents to confirm their visit. It is better to be safe and sure than to be at risk. If an unexpected visitor has no suitable reason to be on the premises they will be asked to leave immediately and escorted from the premises. If the visitor repeatedly refuses to leave, the police will then be telephoned immediately.

All visitors to the setting will be required to sign in the Visitor Register which is kept at the main entrance, reception area.

The following information will be logged:

- Date
- Time in
- Time out
- Name of visitor
- Reason for visit
- Signature
- ID checked

During their visit, visitors will be asked to:

- Store their personal belongings safely in the office including, their mobile phone.
- Familiarise themselves with the emergency evacuation procedures. These are displayed throughout the premises. A member of staff will alert the visitor if we are expecting a fire alarm test.
- Remain clearly visible to a member of staff at all times while they are on the premises.
- At no time should a visitor enter the children's toilets or nappy changing area, or be left alone with the children at any time.

Intruder Procedure

All practitioners and parent/carers must be aware of the procedures to take in the event of an intruder being identified on the premises. All practitioners must be aware that it is their priority to maintain the safety of the children in their care as well as their own safety and to protect the setting's environment.

Method:

An intruder is an individual in the setting who has not followed establishment visitor procedures and may or may not be a safety hazard to the setting. This policy provides a means of dealing with either situation.

Any member of staff who observes an individual in the setting who appears suspicious or out-of-place should either approach the individual (if safe to do so), ask for their name and purpose in the setting or should contact the Manager for assistance.

The person approaching the suspicious individual must determine if the person poses a safety hazard or just needs to be made aware of the setting's visitors' policy.

While determining the status of a visitor, every effort must be made to ensure children in our care are safe, feeling secure and where possible, continuing to be engaged in their current activities. If need be the children must be given reassurances as to their own and others safety and wellbeing.

Procedures for Intruders posing a safety hazard (see *Lockdown Procedure*)

- If you are suspicious of who the visitor is, when you see them through the video intercom, do not open the door. But, politely greet the intruder by speaking to them on the intercom, identify yourself and ask the purpose of their visit. Having a member of staff close by to secure the door and for support if needed.
- Explain that all visitors must sign in and follow the Visitor procedure.
- If the intruder becomes agitated and refuses to leave the building peacefully endeavour to calm the person whilst trying to gain the attention of your staff member to call the police.
- If the caller persists, the children and staff will assemble together in the classroom away from the windows and doors and will be distracted by staff, the register and telephone will be taken with them, and they will stay there until the police arrive.
- If the person leaves before the police arrive do not attempt to detain them.
- If the person does not leave before the police arrive. Explain to the officers what has happened, so they can deal with the intruder and find a cause for arrest.
- Remember to log the incident and review security measures.
- A record will be made of any such incidents in the Incident Record Book and Grace Vincent Preschool Director, will be immediately notified.

Procedure if Intruder is armed (see *Lockdown Procedure*)

- All staff will be alerted by saying the words 'Purple Folder', or using the whistle, and the police contacted immediately.
- Try to remain calm diverting the intruder as far away from the children as possible.

- The children and staff will assemble together in the class room or office area, away from the windows and doors and will be distracted by staff, the register and telephone will be taken with them, and they will stay there until the police arrive.
- If the intruder shows a weapon try to remain calm do not try to disarm them, ensure children and staff are kept away, in a locked area.
- Once the police arrive, make them aware of where the intruder is and any weapon you may have seen, describing the intruder and reporting anything relevant the intruder may have said.
- All staff and children should remain where they are unless directed otherwise by the police.
- Grace Vincent, Preschool Director, will be contacted and then make contact with all parents concerned.
- The incident should be recorded and security procedures reviewed and updated immediately.

Outdoors

If the safety of the child/children/staff is threatened during outside play the following procedure will be put into play.

- The staff member positioned nearest the locked gate, will raise the alarm by shouting “**INSIDE, INSIDE**”, they will, to the best of their ability, without compromising their own safety use delaying tactics whilst the other members of staff as quickly as possible get the children back inside the preschool building, as the situation denotes, offering the quickest and safest place for the children and staff.
- It is the responsibility of the SENCO/1:1 key person to bring the child/children with additional needs into safety.
- The most senior member of staff outside, at the incident, is responsible for sweeping the outdoor area for children.
- All other staff must act as quickly as possible to lead the children to a place of safety whilst not endangering themselves.
- The most likely place being back into the Preschool, where the children will be assembled quickly and calmly on the carpet area, or office area, where the register will be taken.
- A member of staff will close the window blinds.
- The last member of staff entering the building will lock all the doors.
- A member of staff will telephone the police and Grace Vincent, Preschool Director, and then make contact with all parents concerned.

In any event there will be a thorough investigation of the incident and all the staff involved will make a report. Grace Vincent, Preschool Director, will inform Ofsted and the parents of the incident and the subsequent investigations; with due regard to both data protection and confidentiality policies.

In any event our security procedures will be reviewed and updated immediately.

Guidance

Records, policies and notification requirements of the Early Years Register - January 2013 No 120412

The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Section 3 – The Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements

Working Together to Safeguard Children (revised 2006)

In addition, the following policies in relation to this policy safety are in place:

Preschool Risk Assessment Policy

Health & Safety Policy

Safeguarding Children Policy

This policy was adopted by _____ *(name of provider)*

On _____ *(date)*

Date to be reviewed _____ *(date)*

Signed on behalf of the provider _____

Name of signatory _____

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) _____