

Out of School Club

Arrivals and Departures

Buddies recognises the importance of having robust systems in place to ensure the safe arrival and departure of the children in our care.

The manager will ensure that an accurate record is kept of all children in the Club, and that any arrivals or departures are recorded in the register. The register is kept in an accessible location on the premises at all times. In addition we conduct regular headcounts during the session.

Escorting children to the Club

- The Club and school have a clear agreement concerning the transfer of responsibility for children's safety.
- We have risk assessed the route used to escort children to the Club and review it regularly.
- The school and the Club keep an identical register of children who require escorting between locations which are updated daily.
- If a child is booked into the Club but is not at the collection point, we will check whether the child was present at school that day. If the whereabouts of the child is not known, staff will immediately inform the designated contact at the school and ask the school to implement its **Missing Child** policy.

Arrivals

Our staff will greet each child warmly on their arrival at the Club and will record the child's attendance in the daily register straightaway, including the time of arrival. Parents will also sign them in. Key stage 1 children will be escorted to their classroom by appropriate staff. Key stage 2 children will line up outside their classroom

Departures

Key Stage 1 children will be collected from their classrooms and key stage 2 classes will make their own way to Buddies. Staff will ensure that parents or carers sign children out before they leave, including the time of collection.

- Children are collected by an adult who has been authorised to do so on their registration form.

- In exceptional circumstances, if the parent requires another person who is not listed on the registration form to collect their child, the child's parents or carers must inform the Club in advance and provide a description of the person and a password that they will use. If the manager has any concerns regarding the person collecting he/she will contact the main parent or carer for confirmation.
- The parent or carer must notify the Club if they will be late collecting their child. If the Club is not informed, the **Uncollected Children** policy will be followed.
- Children over the age of eight will only be allowed to leave the Club alone at the end of the session if the Club has discussed this with the child's parents and has received their written consent.
- Children below the age of eight will not be allowed to leave the Club unaccompanied.

Absences

- • If a child is going to be absent from a session, parents must notify the Club in advance.
- • If a child is absent without explanation, staff will contact the parents or carers and the school to check where the child should be. If staff still have concerns about the child's whereabouts after attempts to contact the parents and the school the manager will contact the police.
- • The Club will try to discover the causes of prolonged and unexplained absences. Regular absences could indicate that a child or their family might need additional support.

This policy was adopted by: [Insert club name]	Date:
To be reviewed: [Insert date]	Signed: [by Manager/Proprietor]

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2017): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment [3.62, 3.64]; and Information and records [3.76]*

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Missing Child Procedure

At [Buddies](#) we are always alert to the possibility that children can go missing during sessions. To minimise the risk of this happening staff will carry out periodic head counts, particularly when transporting children between locations (eg walking from the school to the Club).

If a child cannot be located, the following steps will be taken:

- All staff will be informed that the child is missing.
- Staff will conduct a thorough search of the premises and surrounding area.
- After 10 minutes the police will be informed. The manager will then contact the child's parents or carers.
- Staff will continue to search for the child whilst waiting for the police and parents to arrive.
- We will maintain as normal a routine as possible for the rest of the children at the Club.
- The manager will liaise with the police and the child's parent or carer.

The incident will be recorded in the **Incident Log**. A review will be conducted regarding this and any other related incidents along with relevant policies and procedures. We will identify and implement any changes as necessary.

If the police or Social Care were involved in the incident, we will also inform Ofsted.

Useful numbers

Police: [101](#) Social Care: [01609 780780](#) Ofsted: 0300 123 1231