



## 65. Arrivals and Departures

EYFS:3.7, 3.62

At Step By Step Montessori Ltd we give a warm welcome to every child and family on their arrival and departure, as well as ensuring the safety of children, parent/carers, visitors, employees, volunteers and students.

Parents are requested to pass the care of their child to a specific member of staff who will ensure his/her safety. The staff member receiving the child immediately records his/her arrival in the daily attendance register. The staff member also records any specific information provided by the parents, including the child's interests, experiences and observations from home.

If the parent requests the child is given medicine during the day the staff member must ensure that the medication procedure is followed.

It is important that children arrive on time and depart for school on time. This is most important for their feeling of security at school and facilitates the smooth running of the day. Lateness causes disruption to other children who have already started their day. Our policy is to not allow children to enter outside of the 30-minute window of the community they are a part of, other than in exceptional circumstances.

The children's arrival time is recorded in the register and if a child arrives late or is collected late more than ten times, their parents or carers will receive a letter from the Montessori.

If the child is to be collected someone who is not the parent at the end of the session, there is an agreed procedure that must be followed to identify the designated person. A password is also required where possible for the designated adult. Parents are informed about these arrangements and reminded about them regularly. Other than the parent/s or legal guardian of the child, we do not allow anyone under the age of 18 to collect. If anyone under the age of 18 arrives to collect child, the parent/carer will be contacted.

The child's key person or other nominated staff member must plan the departure of the child. This should include opportunities to discuss the child's day with the parent, e.g. meals, sleep time, activities, interests, progress and friendships. The parent should be told about any accidents or incidents and the appropriate records must be signed by the parent before departure. Where applicable, all medicines should be recovered from the medicine box/fridge after the parent has arrived and handed to him/her personally. The medication policy is to be followed regarding parental signature.

The nursery will not release a child to anyone other than the known parent unless an agreement has been made at the time of arrival. In the case of any emergency such as a parent being delayed and arranging for a designated adult to collect a child, the parent should inform the designated person of the agreed procedure and contact the nursery about the arrangements as



soon as possible. If in any doubt the nursery will check the person's identity by ringing the child's parent or their emergency contact number (please refer to the late collection policy).

On departure, the staff member releasing the child must mark the child register immediately marked to show that the child has left the premises.

Parents/carers will be informed and reminded not to allow any other person onto the premises when dropping-off or collecting, this is to ensure the safety at all times.

In the unlikely event that someone gains unauthorised access to the premises and if it feels safe to do so, a member of staff will ask the person what the purpose of their visit is. If needed our lockdown procedure will be initiated by staff and the police will be called. (Refer to lockdown procedure). In any cases where someone has gained unauthorised access to the premises we will revisit our arrivals and departures procedures and risk assessment.

### **Adults arriving under the influence of alcohol or drugs**

Please refer to the alcohol and substance misuse policy.

### **Arrivals and departures of visitors**

For arrivals and departures of visitors the nursery requires appropriate records to be completed on entry and exit e.g. in the visitors' book. Please refer to supervision of visitors policy for further information.

### **Staff, Students and Volunteers**

Staff, students and volunteers are responsible for ensuring they sign themselves in and out of the building, including on breaks and lunchtimes.

### **Covid-19**

- Asking families to have one designated adult to carry out the drop off and collection of their child to minimise the number of adults in the setting. We will work together with you to ensure your child can be welcomed and settled by a familiar adult. This may involve having a safe space where key children are dropped off/collected around the same time and then transferred to their base room together
- Key staff will have registers, so attendance can be marked immediately on entry
- Only parents who are symptom free and/or have completed the required isolation periods will be able to drop off or collect their child
- All parent/carers are asked to follow safe social distancing when dropping and collecting children. There will be safe distancing markings outside of the setting to show these
- Giving an allocated drop off and collection time to each parent and ask that you meet these set times, as this will allow us to be able to monitor the amount of adults dropping off and collecting at one time; and to make sure that the familiar adult, from the setting, is able to collect the child from the adult dropping them off. The process for these times will also be shared, including protocols for minimising adult-to-adult contact



Further information will be communicated to all parents in the usual ways prior to the start date.

We will also continue to keep you up to date as government guidelines change and we review our practice.

| <b>This policy was adopted on</b> | <b>Signed on behalf of the nursery</b> | <b>Date for review</b> |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| <i>January 2021</i>               | <i>Khadijeh Nauji</i>                  | <i>January 2022</i>    |