



Safeguarding the Uncollected Child Policy

for Hertsmere Jewish Primary School

Reviewed by A Waller

Reviewed in: September 2026

Date of Next Review: September 2027

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body on an annual basis.

The policy was last reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body in September 2026.

It is due for review in September 2027.

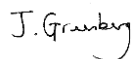
Signature



Headteacher

Date September 2026

Signature



Chair of Governors Date September 2026

In the event that a child is not collected by an authorised adult at the end of a session or day, we have agreed procedures which are put into practice. These ensure that the child is cared for safely by an experienced and qualified member of staff who is known to the child. We will ensure that the child receives a high standard of care in order to cause as little distress as possible.

We inform parents/carers of our procedures so that, if they are unavoidably delayed, they will be reassured that their children will be properly cared for.

This policy should be read alongside the school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy and follows statutory guidance including Keeping Children Safe in Education (2026), Working Together to Safeguard Children (2023) and relevant Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership procedures.

Procedures

Parents of children starting at the school are asked to provide the following specific information which is recorded on our Data Collection sheets:

- Home address, email and telephone number
- Details of all persons who have parental responsibility and anyone else they wish to be contacted in an emergency. These are placed in the order that they should be contacted in an emergency.
- These details include name, relationship to the child, home address, phone number, mobile number, work address, work phone and email.

Parents are asked to fill in a Confidential Personal Record Form for their child on a yearly basis to ensure we hold up-to-date information should we need to contact them or a designated responsible adult. Data will be processed in accordance with UK GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.

- On occasions when parents are aware that they will not be at home or in their usual place of work, they should inform us in writing of how they can be contacted.
- On occasions when parents or the persons normally authorised to collect the child are not able to collect the child, they should provide us with details of the name of the person who will be collecting their child.
- Parents are informed that if they are not able to collect the child as planned, they must inform us so that we can begin to take back-up measures. We provide parents with our contact telephone number.
- We inform parents that if a child has not been collected within 30 minutes of the end of the school day and all reasonable attempts to contact parents and authorised adults have been unsuccessful, the procedures below will be followed.

If a child is not collected at the end of the session/day, we follow the following procedures:

- The child's file is checked for any information about changes to the normal collection routines and relevant staff are asked about changes.
- If no information is available, parents/carers are contacted at home or at work.
- If this is unsuccessful, the adults who are authorised by the parents to collect their

child from the school – and whose telephone numbers are recorded on the Data Collection Sheet – are contacted.

- Where there are immediate safeguarding concerns or there is reason to believe a parent or carer may have come to harm, the DSL will consider contacting the police. · The child does not leave the premises with anyone other than those named on the Registration Form or in their file.

- If no-one collects the child after the agreed timeframe and there is no-one who can be contacted to collect the child, we apply the procedures for uncollected children.

- During office hours we contact Hertfordshire Children's Services on 01438 737511.

- After office hours we contact the Hertfordshire out of hours duty officer on 01438 737511.

- The child stays at school in the care of two members of staff, one of whom should be DSL-trained where possible, until the child is safely collected either by the parents or by a social care worker.

- The welfare of the child remains paramount throughout and staff will provide reassurance and appropriate supervision until suitable arrangements have been made.

- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is informed of the incident. If Children's Services become involved, the Headteacher and the Safeguarding Governor/Chair of Governors will also be informed.

- Children's Services will aim to find the parent or relative but if they are unable to do so, the child will become looked after by the local authority.

- Under no circumstances do staff go to look for the parent, nor do they take the child home with them.

A full written report of the incident is recorded on the school's safeguarding recording system (e.g. CPOMS).

Depending on circumstances, we reserve the right to charge parents for the additional hours worked by our staff, at the discretion of the Headteacher. Safeguarding considerations will always take precedence.

After any incident, the Headteacher and DSL will debrief with staff and review procedures to identify any learning points.