

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Information and Records



Children's records must be held securely and only accessible to those who have a right or professional need to see them.

Children's records

Legal framework

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) (2018)

Policy statement

Human Rights Act (1998)

We have record keeping systems in place that meet legal requirements; the means we use to store and share that information takes place within the framework of the General Data protection Regulations (GDPR) (2018) and the Human Rights Act (1998).

This policy and procedure should be read alongside [our/my], Confidentiality

This policy and procedure should be read alongside our Privacy Notice, Confidentiality and Client Access to Records Policy and our Information Sharing Policy.

Procedures

If a child attends another setting, we establish a regular two-way flow of appropriate information with parents and other providers. Where appropriate, we will incorporate comments from other providers, as well as parents and/or carers into the child's records.

We keep two kinds of records on children attending our pre-school:

Developmental records

- These include observations of children in the setting, photographs, video clips and samples of their work and summary developmental reports.
- These are stored on the EYFS Tapestry, digital records. We currently use iPad, computers and telephones to record our observations. This format allows families to receive up to date information by our staff. On occasions practitioners may work from home on the tapestry files, they understand the need to logout when leaving their devices unattended.

Personal records

These may include the following (as applicable):

- Personal details – including the child's registration form and any consent forms.
- Contractual matters – including a copy of the signed parent contract, the child's days and times of attendance, a record of the child's fees, any fee reminders or records of disputes about fees.

- Child's development, health and well-being – including a summary only of the child's EYFS profile report, a record of discussions about every day matters about the child's development health and well-being with the parent.
- Early Support – including any additional focussed intervention provided by our pre-school (e.g. support for behaviour, language or development that needs an Individual SSPlan) and records of any meetings held.
- Welfare and child protection concerns – including records of all welfare and protection concerns, and our resulting action, meetings and telephone conversations about the child, a Statement of Special Educational Need and any information regarding a Looked After Child.
- Correspondence and Reports – including a copy of the child's 2 Year Old Progress Check (as applicable), all letters and emails to and from other agencies and any confidential reports from other agencies.
- These confidential records are stored in a lockable file or cabinet, which is always locked when not in use and which our manager keeps secure in a safe place.
- We read any correspondence in relation to a child, note any actions and file it immediately
- We ensure that access to children's files is restricted to those authorised to see them and make entries in them, this being our manager, supervisor or designated person for child protection, the child's key person, or other staff as authorised by our manager.
- We may be required to hand children's personal files to Ofsted as part of an inspection or investigation process; or to local authority staff conducting a S11 audit, as long as authorisation is seen. We ensure that children's personal files are not handed over to anyone else to look at.
- Parents have access, in accordance with our Privacy Notice, Client Access to Records Policy, to the files and records of their own children, but do not have access to information about any other child.
- Our staff will not discuss personal information given by parents with other members of staff, except where it affects planning for the child's needs. Our staff induction programme includes an awareness of the importance of confidentiality in the role of the key person.
- We retain children's records for three years after they have left the setting; except records that relate to an accident, which are kept until a child reaches the age of 21 years or 24 years respectively. These are kept in a secure place.

Archiving children's files

- When a child leaves, their Tapestry file information can be passed on to the relevant agency, school or family with the required request as stated in Tapestry terms and conditions. The file will then be made inactive by the pre-school.
- When a child leaves our pre-school, we remove all paper documents from the child's personal file and place them in a file for one year they have left.
- We seal this and place it in an archive box, stored in a safe place for three years. After three years it is destroyed.
- Where there "was s.47 child protection investigations, we pass on all documentation to the next provision and ask them to sign and date our form which we keep as proof we have passed on the relevant documentation.
- We store financial information according to our finance procedures.

Other records

- We keep a daily record of the names of the children we are caring for, their hours of attendance and the names of their key person.
- Students on Pre-school Learning Alliance or other recognised qualifications and training, when they are observing in the setting, are advised of our Confidentiality and Client Access to Records Policy and are required to respect it.

Policy adopted on 9/1/23

Signed on behalf of Bagshot Pre-school *Susan Michel*

Role within the Pre-school Manager

