

Harrold Pre-School Policies



Death of a Child Policy and Procedure

A child may die in a childcare setting because of one of the following reasons:

1. Cot death, illness or fatal accident
 2. Negligence leading to fatal illness or accident.
- In either case, the Pre-School Leader/Deputy will call the emergency services – Ambulance and Police.
 - Emergency resuscitation will be given to the child by a qualified First Aider until the ambulance arrives.
 - The Pre-School Leader/Deputy will also call the parents and ask them to come to the preschool immediately as there has been an incident involving their child. *The Pre-School Leader/Deputy will not tell the parents over the phone that their child has died.*
 - The Pre-School Committee Chair must be informed.
 - The Preschool Leader/Deputy will make sure the children are kept away from where the child has died and will ask staff not to discuss it in front of them.
 - One member of staff will phone all the other parents to ask them to collect their child. The reason given must be agreed by the Pre-School Committee Chair and be the same given to each parent.
 - The Pre-School Chair will decide how long the preschool will remain closed for.
 - When the children have gone home, staff will remain at the Pre-School and will be available for police questioning. Staff will go home when the police have agreed.
 - All staff will co-operate fully with any investigation that takes place.
 - A critical incident report will be written up and a RIDDOR report may be sent to the Health and Safety Executive. Ofsted will be informed. The Preschool Chair is responsible for this.
 - The Pre-School Chair and Leader/Deputy are aware of the effects of such a death and that some levels of grief that staff may feel may be overwhelming. Bereavement Counselling will be made available where necessary.
 - The Pre-School Chair and Leader/Deputy will agree how parents will be informed of what has happened

Staff will not discuss any death of a child incident with the press or make reference to the incident on social media.