

1.5 Lock Down

Lock down policy

We will use the lock down procedure when the safety of the children and staff is at risk and we will be better placed inside the current building, with doors and windows locked and blinds/curtains drawn.

We will activate this emergency procedure in response to several situations, but some of the more typical might be:

- A reported incident or disturbance in the local community (with potential to pose a risk to staff and children in the nursery)
- An intruder on the pre-school site (with potential to pose a risk to staff and children in nursery)
- A warning being received regarding a risk locally, of air pollution (smoke plumes, gas cloud etc.)
- A major fire or explosion in the vicinity of the pre-school – if it is safer staying in the premises than leaving.

In this case the staff will be notified by the following action:

Whistle being blown.

The signal for all clear will be:

A bell sounding.

All individuals (including children) will remain in the area they are in, if safe to do so. If the children are outside, staff are to promptly and calmly direct children into the building, if this will not endanger them. Staff will make efforts to close and lock doors wherever safe to do so.

All individuals will keep away from the windows and doors and children will be occupied in a separate room, so they are not placed at risk or are able to see any situation developing outside. Our Lock Down location is the room at the back of the building where doors can be locked, and blinds pulled down. It also allows the staff and children to exit the building if necessary.

Internal communications will be kept to a minimum. Communications will be through a radio,

The manager will ensure all children, staff and visitors are accounted for and safe and keep up to date with the current situation.

The manager on duty will manage the situation dependant on the situation and the information available. If the pre-school is in immediate danger of an intruder, the police will be called as a matter of urgency. In other cases where the situation has been alerted by the police or local area authority then the nursery will await further instructions.

Once all clear has been given externally the Manager or Line Manager will issue all clear internally. After this time the staff will try to return to normal practice to enable the children not to be disrupted or upset by the events.

Any children showing worries or concerns will have one to one time with their key person to talk about these.

Parents will be informed about the situation at the earliest safest opportunity and will be kept updated when the information changes.

After the event a post-incident evaluation will be conducted to ensure that each child and staff member was supported fully, and the procedure went as planned. Ofsted will be contacted.

Regular drills will be held to practice exercising the lock down procedure using non-alarming scenarios.

This policy was adopted by

Perins Pre-school

On

25th April 2023

Date to be reviewed

25th April 2024

Signed on behalf of the provider

Michelle Osman

Name of signatory

Michelle Osman

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)

Pre-School Manager