



## 06 Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults procedures

### 06.8 Looked after children

#### **Identification.**

A 'Looked after Child' is a child in public care, who is placed with foster carers, in a residential home or with parents or other relatives.

#### **Services provided to Looked After Children**

We do not offer placements for babies and children under two years who are in care; we offer instead other services to enable a child to play and engage with other children while their carer stays with them.

We will always offer 'stay and play' provision for a child who is two to five years old who is still settling with their foster carer, or who is only temporarily being looked after.

Where a child who normally attends our setting is taken into care and is cared for by a local foster carer, we will continue to offer the placement for the child.

#### *Two-year-olds*

- ❖ Places will be offered to two-year-old children who are looked after; where the placement in the setting will normally last a minimum of three months.
- ❖ Where the child is already in attendance and has a secure attachment with an existing key person a continuation of the existing place will be offered.

#### *Three- and four-year-olds*

- ❖ Places will be offered for funded three and four year olds who are looked after; where the placement in the setting will normally last a minimum of six weeks.
- ❖ If a child who attends a setting is taken into care and is cared for by a local carer the place will continue to be made available to the child.

#### **Additional Support**

- ❖ The designated person and key person liaise with agencies and professionals involved with the child, and his or her family, and ensure appropriate information is gained and shared.
- ❖ A meeting of professionals involved with the child is convened by the setting at the start of a placement. A Personal Education Plan (PEP) for children over 3 years old is put in place within 10 days of the child becoming looked after.

- ❖ Following this meeting, 6.8a Care plan for looked after children form is completed. The care plan is reviewed after two weeks, six weeks, three months, and thereafter at three to six monthly intervals.
- ❖ Regular contact will be maintained with the social worker through planned meetings, which will include contribution to the PEP which is reviewed annually.

This policy was adopted by

Abinger Common Nursery

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On

July 2023

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Date to be reviewed

July 2024

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Signed on behalf of the provider



Name of signatory

Mrs Emma Powell

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

Nursery Chair Person

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