

## **Parents under the influence of Alcohol or Drugs**

*Providers must be alert to any issues for concern in the Child's life at home or elsewhere. Providers must have and implement a policy, and procedures, to safeguard children.*

*EYFS Statutory Guidance pg. 16*

### **Our policy for Parents under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs : We believe:**

That being a parent is the hardest job in the world; however we have a duty to safeguard all the children within our care. If practitioners from within the setting decide that they cannot release a child into the care of the adult who has come to collect them due to the risk the child will not be safe then we endeavour to manage the incident tactfully and ensure that we retain our professional relationship with the family.

### **Our procedures for Parents under the influence of alcohol or drugs: We support this by:**

- Staff should report their suspicion to the most senior member of staff on duty.
- The staff member will speak to the parent discreetly and take them aside for a quiet word. This may help the parent or carer recognise there is a problem.
- There must always be two members of staff present and staff should not jeopardize their own safety in these situations.
- We will try to persuade the parent they are not in a fit state to cope with the child's needs and to encourage them not to drive. We will also offer practical help, such as offering to call the number or a taxi.
- If the parent's state is such that we are unable to release the child into their care we will contact emergency contacts to come and collect the child.
- If staff cannot find another carer or member of the family to help, a last resort would be to ring Kirklees Duty and Assessment Team.
- Any member of staff feeling under threat or believes the child will be in danger will contact the police.

**Duty and Assessment Team 01484 456848**

**Out of Hours Duty and Assessment Team 01484 414933**

**Police 999**

**Staff will support this by being professional at ALL times and throughout the rest of the child's time within nursery.**