



Incapacitated parent

Incapacitated refers to a condition which renders a parent unable to take responsibility for their child; this could be at the time of collecting their child from the setting or on arrival. Concerns may include:

- appearing drunk
- appearing under the influence of drugs
- demonstrating angry and threatening behaviour to the child, members of staff or others
- appearing erratic or manic

Informing

- If a member of staff is concerned that a parent displays any of the above characteristics, they inform the designated officer as soon as possible.
- The designated officer assesses the risk and decides if further intervention is required.
- If it is decided that no further action is required, a record of the incident is made on the Safeguarding incident reporting form.
- If intervention is required, the designated officer speaks to the parent in an appropriate, confidential manner.
- The designated officer will, in agreement with the parent, use emergency contacts listed for the child to ask an alternative adult to collect the child.
- The emergency contact is informed of the situation by the designated officer and of the setting's requirement to inform social care of their contact details.
- If there is no one suitable to collect the child social care are informed.
- If violence is threatened towards anybody, the police are called immediately.
- If the parent takes the child from the setting while incapacitated the police are called immediately and a referral is made to social care.