

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Child Protection

Providers must have and implement a policy, and procedures, to safeguard children.



7.3 Exclusion Policy

Policy statement

Southmoor Pre-School takes the decision to exclude a child from the setting as a serious one. It will be used only when other forms of behavior guidance are unsuccessful. All efforts will be made to resolve issues that arise. A child will only be excluded as a last resort. The decision to exclude will be based on information collected by staff detailing all behaviours, including frequency, seriousness, any patterns and any other important or relevant behaviour including additional needs, medication, family history and will be the Manager's decision after consultation with the parent or carer.

A temporary exclusion from the setting means that the child does not attend for either, a set period of time or the remainder of the term. The length of exclusion is determined by the Manager and is dependent on the severity or frequency of the irresponsible behaviour and the time deemed necessary to achieve specific behaviour changes. A **permanent exclusion** may be deemed necessary if the children and staff are at risk of that child attending. Any action will not be taken lightly and used as a last resort, the Manager will call an 'emergency committee meeting' to discuss this with the trustees should a decision like this need to be made. The Manager and Trustees will make this decision together and the Manager will present them with all evidence regarding the need for this permanent exclusion.

Exclusion from the setting is intended to:

- Enable the child to achieve certain goals related to increasing responsible behaviour
- Signal that the child's irresponsible behaviour is not acceptable and cannot be managed with the setting without interfering with the rights of others to enjoyment and safety.

Exclusion from the setting is an appropriate response when the Manager believes that:

- The child's behaviour endangers his/her safety or the safety of others.
- The child frequently assaults other children or staff. Assault includes: hitting, biting, kicking, pushing or serious verbal aggression
- The child disrupts the group on a regular basis
- The child has disrespect for the staff/the other children/the setting's property

Prior to exclusion the following steps will take place:

- The Manager or Deputy will talk to the parent or carer about their child's behaviour and improvements that need to occur.
- If the child's behaviour does not improve as needed the parent(s) will be given a week's notice, **if appropriate**, before their child is excluded from the setting.

Immediate exclusion from the setting may occur if, in the opinion of the Manager, the child's behaviour poses a danger to him/herself or the other children or staff or to the setting's property.

Parents or carers have the right to appeal against the decision to exclude and if after consultation an agreement can be reached the setting will work with the family to develop strategies to successfully reintegrate the child back into the setting.

Other reasons for exclusion:

A child may also be excluded due to the actions of parents or carers. Exclusion may occur for any of the following:

- Repeatedly being late in picking up children from the setting.
- Non-payment of fees.
- Inappropriate behaviour towards staff: use of inappropriate language, being verbally or physically threatening or intimidating, any physical aggression and/or damage to property.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Southmoor Pre-School (name of provider)

Held on _____ (date)

Date to be reviewed _____ (date)

Signed on behalf of the management committee

Name of signatory _____

Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner) _____