



Round and Round the Gardens Childcare

... the natural choice for your child.

Jack Temple Building . Pyrford Road . Pyrford . Surrey . GU22 8UQ
01932 355322

Company Director / Nursery Manager
Suzanne Filson BA (Hons) / EYPS
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Handling Children

This policy applies to the handling/moving around of children

- If it is necessary to pick up a child, it is important that the child is informed of this; i.e. communication is vital at all times.
- Children should be handled with respect and gentleness at all times
- When children are lifted, they should be given adequate support – children should be picked up under the arms and well supported at all times; communication should be on-going as well as eye-contact, where practicable.
UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD ANY CHILD BE LIFTED BY THE FOREARMS OR WRISTS AS THIS IS NOT ONLY DISRESPECTFUL BY COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.
- When lowering a child from a carrying position, this should be done gently; maintaining support and communication. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD CHILDREN BE LOWERED OR 'SWUN' DOWN BY THE FOREARMS OR WRISTS.**
- **HAND HOLDING** – Where it is necessary to have contact with a child, i.e. moving from one place to another or 'leading' them to a parent for example, this should be done by holding hands kindly and gently. Again, children should not be led by the wrist, arms, clothing etc.
- **SITTING DOWN** – Where a child is reluctant to sit down, it is important to consider the child's feelings and wishes. Where practicable, if a child chooses not to sit, this should be accepted. If encouraging children to sit, for example at going home time, children should be encouraged in a happy, fun, friendly, cajoling manner. Children SHOULD NOT be pulled or forced in any way to sit.
- **PEERS** – Children should be actively encouraged to be kind and respectful to each other; i.e. to touch each other appropriately i.e. begin gently, respecting space and our bodies.
- **TOILETING** – when toileting, encourage independence at all times. If assistance is required and children need help to sit on the toilet, this should be done using the lifting guidelines (see above) whilst maintaining as much privacy as possible for the child.
- **REMOVAL FROM LARGE APPARATUS** – where possible, children should be 'talked down' to encourage independence whilst feeling safe and secure. **AGAIN**, if a child needs to be removed; this should be carried out using the lifting guidelines above.
- **MOVING CHILDREN** – when children are being moved from one place to another, and they do not respond to a verbal command, hand-holding may be necessary. **It is unacceptable to 'usher' children by pushing them, pushing heads/guiding by touching heads, by holding clothing or any other means as this could cause harm and is disrespectful.**



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- **HOLDING** – In *extreme* circumstances for the child's own safety, it may be necessary to hold a child to prevent injury to themselves or others for example. This should be done in a nurturing, caring way – communication is vital

STAFF:

Health & Safety – Please remember to bend knees when picking up and lowering children. This is to prevent personal injury.

Staff should also be aware that children can sustain injury very easily indeed when being handled; therefore, extra care should be taken when lifting or carrying them.

All of the above statements outline good practice and should be carried out all of the time. By doing this, we enable children to feel respected and cared for. Children can be vulnerable, and it is a huge part of our role as carers to ensure that they feel nurtured and respected at ALL times.

Updated: October 2011

Review: October 2012



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