



Alcohol, medicines and other drugs policy

Policy Statement

It is my policy to keep children safe when they are in my care.

Procedures (how I will put the statement into practice)

To do this, I will ensure that anyone who has contact with the children at my setting, is not under the influence of alcohol or any other drug which may affect their ability to care for children:

- I will ensure that anyone who has contact with the children in my care whilst at my setting, seeks medical advice if they are taking any medication which could affect their ability to care for children. They will only work directly with the children if it is confirmed that their ability to look after the children will not be impaired.
- I will ensure that alcohol and medicines are kept safely away from children.
- Illegal drugs are strictly prohibited.
- If a parent/carer arrives at my setting to collect a child and is clearly heavily under the influence of alcohol or drugs, I will assess their ability to care for the child safely. If I feel it would be dangerous to release the child into their care, I will request to call another contact from the child's list of authorised adults to collect the child instead.
- I am not legally allowed to stop a parent with parental responsibility from taking their child, but if I deem the child to be at risk (e.g. a parent driving under the influence, unable to cross roads safely, severely impaired judgement) and the parent does not allow me to call another responsible adult, I will inform the police immediately.

Please ensure you have read and understand the Alcohol, medicines and other drugs policy and procedure.

All policies and procedures are reviewed regularly and updated when necessary.

This policy and procedure has been developed in line with the EYFS welfare requirements and Ofsted guidance, and outlines the provider's responsibility to take all necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

This policy and procedure has been written by **Miss Caitlin Smith**, the Ofsted-registered childminder responsible for the care of children at **The Flower Cottage**, Dudley, West Midlands, DY2 7TQ.