



Allegations of Abuse Against a Childminder Policy

As a childminder, sometimes working alone we are more vulnerable to allegations of abuse being made against our family or us. I will take precautions to protect myself from this happening by:

- Ensuring all household members over 16 are CRB checked and cleared.
- Ensuring all visitors to the house sign the visitors book and do not have unsupervised access to the children under any circumstances.
- Any regular visitors to our setting will be asked to complete a CM2 form and will then undertake a Criminal Record Bureau Check.
- We will not leave a minded child in a room alone with a visitor, unless we know they have been CRB cleared, for example another Ofsted Registered childminder.
- We will not allow any visitors to take my minded children to the toilet or change their nappies.
- We will request identification from all visitors not known to us and will refuse entry if we are unsure of them.
- We will endeavor, when possible, to arrange for any maintenance work to our property to be carried out at weekends and during non-minding hours.
- We will maintain a visitors book, which is available for you to look at.
- We will ensure, where possible, that no workmen are in the house during minded hours, unless it is to repair an emergency service or for Health and Safety Reasons.
- We will document accidents and incidents that occur whilst a child is in our care, informing parents and requesting them to sign my records.
- We will note any marks on the children when they arrive and ask parents to inform us of any accidents that have occurred whilst outside my care.
- We will ensure the children are supervised at all times.
- We will keep accurate records on each child and write a daily diary for under 3's.

However, sometimes allegations are made and this unfortunate situation cannot be avoided. We will then follow the procedure detailed below.

We will follow the local safeguarding children's board procedure and inform LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) within one working day and Ofsted within 14 days, but as soon as possible following their advice as to whether to continue working.

We will gain support and professional advice from the following organisations:

- Our insurance company
- NCMA Legal Advice Line
- Family Solicitor
- Ofsted
- Local Early Childhood Services



We will write a detailed record of all related incidents, including what was said and by whom, with times and dates.

We will ask any witnesses (if there were any) to also write a statement detailing the incident they witnessed and giving their contact details in case it needs to be followed up by the authorities.