

06 Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults procedures

06.6 Impaired capacity of a parent/carer

Incapacitated refers to a condition which renders a parent/carer 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 at [Cottontails preschool is concerned that a parent/carer display any of the above characteristics, they inform the designated safeguarding officer as soon as possible.
- The designated safeguarding 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 form Safeguarding incident reporting form.
- If intervention is required, the designated safeguarding officer speaks to the parent/carer in an appropriate, confidential manner.
- The designated safeguarding officer will, in agreement with the parent/carer, 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 safeguarding 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/carer takes the child from Cottontails preschool while incapacitated the police are called immediately and a referral is made to social care.

Recording

- The designated safeguarding lead completes Safeguarding incident reporting form and if social care were contacted Confidential safeguarding incident report form is completed. If police were contacted
- Further updates/notes/conversations/ telephone calls are recorded.
- Staff are offered appropriate support and advice regarding their wellbeing.