

St Paul's Catholic Nursery and Primary School



Late Collection Policy

Approved on: September 2024

Review: September 2026

This policy and procedures will be reviewed bi annually.

Policy aim:

- To ensure the prompt collection of all children from the school
- To ensure the safety and well-being of children
- To enable staff to attend training, meetings and carry out professional duties.

Collection of children at the end of the School day

It is the responsibility of parents to collect their child(ren) on time at the end of each school day. St Paul's recognises that it has a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils, and that this duty extends to having arrangements in place for dealing with children who are not collected at the end of a school day, or at the end of an authorised activity.

On admission to the School, parents should supply:

- Names and full addresses of parents/carers (and confirmation of parental responsibility);
- Home and work telephone numbers;
- Mobile phone numbers where appropriate;
- Two emergency contacts who may be called in the event of the parents/carers being unobtainable or in the case of an emergency
- It is the responsibility of the parent/carer to ensure this information is updated annually or whenever circumstances change.
- If a pupil is not collected at the end of the school day or after attending after school clubs, it is important to make contact with parents, or anyone on the child's emergency contact list if parents are unavailable.

The late collection policy will operate to the following timetable from the end of the school day:

- School finishes at 3.15 pm (3pm for Nursery)
- Teachers and children will remain in their classrooms until 3.20 pm (3
- At 3.20 pm children will be taken to the office for collection
- At 3.25 pm teacher training sessions and meetings begin
- From 3.25 pm the late collection policy applies

The teacher or an appropriate member of staff will:

1. Check with office staff to see whether a phone call or note has been received.
2. If a parent has not made contact or arrived by 3.25pm, a member of school staff will make every effort to contact the parent.
3. If the parent cannot be reached, the emergency contacts provided will then be called. Contact numbers are kept in the office and on the School's Management Information System (SIMs).

Procedure for when a child is not collected by 3.25pm:

- On any occasion the parent/carer is late will be charged £5 per 5 minutes, per child. For example, if you pick up your child at 4.00 pm, you are 35 minutes late, , this will cost you £35.00 per child.
- The office clock will be used to determine the cost.
- There will also be a charge if parents phone the school to say they are running late but children are still not collected by 3.30 pm.

After School Clubs

All clubs finish by 4:15pm, teacher clubs by 4pm. Children must be collected by the agreed time stated on the permission slip.

On the first occasion when a child is not collected on time, the parent/carer will be reminded about the club's finishing time.

On the second occasion when a child is not collected at the agreed time, the parent/carers will be informed that their child will no longer be able to participate in the club.

- Late collections for clubs will be reviewed termly.
- The office clock will be used to determine the time.

The charging procedures contained within this policy will not be followed where School trips, visits or journeys have caused the late arrival of children back to School.

We ask parents to call the School Office if they are running very late to help appropriate provision to be made and children can be kept informed (please note that calling will not exempt a parent from any late charges).

Procedure if a child remains uncollected after 45 minutes

This aspect of the policy relates to the school's statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of pupils, and operates for every situation where a parent or carer cannot be

- contacted within 45 minutes of the end of the school day/club/activity. In the case of a pupil not being collected and no contact being made by the parents with the school or the school being unable to make contact with one of the emergency contacts within 45 minutes of the end of the day/end of the club/activity, the School will ring Hertfordshire's Social Care and Children's services team to discuss the situation and ask for advice. This will allow the Team to begin to plan for the possibility that they may need to make arrangements for the alternative care of the child.

Change of Collecting Adult

Periodically, the School sends out a letter asking parents to update emergency contact details for up to three named adults who have permission to pick up the child at the end of the day.

This information is collected and updated to allow the School to make a quick and informed decision if somebody less familiar seeks to collect a child or if the class is being dismissed by a supply teacher.

If an adult who is not named on the consent form attempts to collect the child, the School will, for matters of safeguarding, need to contact a parent to confirm whether they are genuine and do have permission to collect the child.

Parents are reminded that any changes to normal collection arrangements (e.g. child going

on a playdate, being collected by another parent) should always be shared with the school office or the child's class teacher.

Whilst we acknowledge that rare unforeseen circumstances may occur and cause delay in collecting your child, and first-time concerns will be taken into consideration. This policy is in place to protect and safeguard both the emotional and physical well-being of a child, which can be adversely affected by regularly being collected late