

Wendens Ambo Pre-School

10.0 Information & Records

10.6 Children's records

Policy statement

We have record keeping systems in place that meet legal requirements; the means we use to store and share that information takes place within the framework of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2018) and the Human Rights Act (1998).

This policy and procedure should be read alongside our Privacy Notice, Confidentiality and Client Access to Records Policy and our Information Sharing Policy.

Procedures

If a child attends another setting, we establish a regular two-way flow of appropriate information with parents and other providers. Where appropriate, we will incorporate comments from other providers, as well as parents and/or carers into the child's records.

We keep two kinds of records on children attending our setting:

Developmental records – “the Learning Journey”

- These include observations of children in the setting, photographs, and samples of their work and summary developmental reports.
- These are usually kept on Pre-School premises and can be accessed, and contributed to, by our staff, the child and the child's parents.
- Members of staff take home their Key Children's Learning Journals to work on for short periods of time.

Personal records

These may include the following:

- Personal details – including the child’s registration form and any consent forms.
- Contractual matters – including a copy of the signed terms and conditions , the child’s days and times of attendance, a record of the child’s fees, any fee reminders or records of disputes about fees.
- Child’s development, health and well-being – including a summary only of the child’s EYFS profile report, a record of discussions about everyday matters about the child’s development health and well-being with the parent.
- Early Support – including any additional focussed intervention provided by our setting (e.g. support for behaviour, language or development that needs a Special Educational Needs (SEN) action Plan) and records of any meetings held.
- Welfare and child protection concerns – including records of all welfare and protection concerns, and our resulting action, meetings and telephone conversations about the child, a Statement of Special Educational Needs, an Education, Health and Care Plan and any information regarding a Looked After Child.
- Correspondence and Reports – including a copy of the child’s 2-Year-Old Progress Check (as applicable), all letters and emails to and from other agencies and any confidential reports from other agencies.
- These confidential records are stored in a lockable file or cabinet, which is always locked when not in use and which our Manager keeps secure in a suitably safe place.
- We read any correspondence in relation to a child, note any actions and file it immediately
- We ensure that access to children’s files is restricted to those authorised to see them and make entries in them, this being our Manager, Deputy Manager or designated person for child protection, the child’s key person, or other staff as authorised by our Manager.
- We may be required to hand children’s personal files to Ofsted as part of an inspection or investigation process; or to local authority staff conducting a S11 audit, as long as authorisation is seen. We ensure that children’s personal files are not handed over to anyone else to look at.

- Parents have access, in accordance with our *Privacy Notice* and our *Confidentiality and Client Access to Records* policy, to the files and records of their own children, but do not have access to information about any other child.
- Our staff will not discuss personal information given by parents with other members of staff, except where it affects planning for the child's needs. Our staff induction programme includes an awareness of the importance of confidentiality in the role of the key person.
- We retain children's records for three years after they have left the setting; except records that relate to an accident or child protection matter, which are kept until a child reaches the age of 21 years or 24 years respectively. These are kept in a secure place.

Archiving children's files

- When a child leaves our setting, we remove all paper documents from the child's personal file and place them in an envelope with the child's name and date of birth on the front and the date they left. This file is stored in a safe place, such as a locked cabinet, for three years. After three years it is destroyed.
- If data is kept electronically it is encrypted and stored as above.
- Where there were s.47 child protection investigations, we mark the envelope with a star and archive it for 25 years.
- Financial information is kept by the Treasurer and stored according to our finance procedures.

Other records

- We keep a daily record of the names of the children we are caring for, their hours of attendance and the names of their key person.
- Students on Early Years Alliance or other recognised qualifications and training, when they are observing in the setting, are advised of our Confidentiality and Client Access to Records Policy and are required to respect it.

Legal framework

- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (2018)
- Human Rights Act (1998)

Further guidance

- Information Sharing: Advice for practitioners providing safeguarding services to children, young people, parents and carers (2015)

This policy was adopted by Wendens Ambo Pre-School

On: _____

Date to be reviewed: May 2021

Signed on behalf of the provider: _____

Name of Signatory: _____

Role of signatory: _____