

## Lock Down procedure

We will use the lock down procedure when the safety of the children and staff may be at risk and we feel it is essential for their well-being to be inside the nursery building, with doors and windows locked and blinds drawn where appropriate.

We will activate this emergency procedure in response to a number of situations, but some of the more typical might be:

- A report incident or disturbance in the local community (with potential to pose a risk to staff and children in the nursery) such as a terrorist attack
- An intruder on the nursery site (with potential to pose a risk to staff and children in nursery)
- A warning being received regarding a risk locally, of air pollution (smoke plumes, gas cloud etc.)
- A major fire or explosion in the vicinity of the nursery – as long as it is safer staying in the premises than leaving.

**A whistle is blown to alert staff to any of the above**

All individuals (including children) will remain in the area they are in, if safe to do so. If the children are outside, staff are to promptly and calmly direct children into the building. Staff will make efforts to close and lock doors wherever safe to do so.

All individuals will keep away from the windows and doors and children will be occupied in the centre of the room so they are not placed at risk or are able to see any situation developing outside.

The manager will ensure all children, staff and visitors are accounted for and safe before returning to the office area to keep up to date with the current situation via several forms, either telephone, visual, or confirmation by local authorities or Police. The Manager on duty will manage the situation and keep staff abreast of all current information available. If the nursery is in immediate danger of an intruder, the police will be called as a matter of urgency. In other cases where the situation has been called through by the police or local area authority, the nursery will await further instructions.

Once the all clear has been given externally, the manager will issue the all clear internally. After this time the staff will try to return practice to normal to enable the children not to be disrupted or upset by the events.

Any children showing worries or concerns will have one to one time with their key person to talk about these.

Parents will be informed about the situation at the earliest safest opportunity and will be kept updated when the information changes.

After the event a post-incident evaluation will be conducted to ensure that each child and staff member was supported fully and the procedure went as planned.

| This policy was adopted on | Signed on behalf of the nursery | Date for review |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| November 2017              |                                 | September 2023  |