

06 Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults procedures

06.06 Incapacitated Parent/Carer

Incapacitated refers to a condition which renders a parent/carers 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 is concerned that a parent/carers displays any of the above characteristics, they inform the DSL and/or the DDSL as soon as possible.
- The DSL and/or the DDSL assess 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 the purple forms and reported on CPOMs.
- If intervention is required, DSL and/or the DDSL speaks to the parent/carers in an appropriate, confidential manner.
- The DSL and/or the DDSL, in agreement with the parent/carers, may use the 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 DSL and/or the DDSL and of the setting's requirement to inform social services of their contact details.
- The board of trustees and/or MASH are informed of the situation as soon as possible and provide advice and assistance as appropriate.
- If there is no one suitable to collect the child social services are informed.
- If violence is threatened towards anybody, the DSL and/or the DDSL will request the parent/carers leave the premises and the police are called immediately.
- If the parent/carers takes the child from the setting while incapacitated the police are called immediately and a referral is made to social services.

Recording

- The incident is recorded on the purple forms and reported on CPOMs.
- If police were contacted, the board of trustees and Ofsted are informed within 14 days.