



Seedlings Pre School  
St Johns Memorial Hall

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## Baby Sitting Policy

It is often difficult for parents to find appropriate babysitters for their children who they feel comfortable leaving them with. It is not unusual for parents to hire staff from their child's pre school/nursery setting to baby sit.

Seedlings Pre School is happy for staff to undertake babysitting duties for children who attend the setting, but we ask that parents and staff both recognise and adhere to the policy detailed here.

- If a parent chooses to engage a staff member to babysit for their child then they accept full responsibility for doing so. It is a private arrangement between the staff member and the parent and Seedlings Pre School is in no way responsible or liable for any child who is in the care of the staff member who is babysitting.
- Parents should be aware that although our staff members have been fully vetted and are cleared to work with children, if they bring any accompanying people with them whilst babysitting these people will not have been vetted. It is also the parent's responsibility to make their own checks as to the suitability of the staff member to work as babysitter and should not rely on those performed by Seedlings Pre School.
- Any disputes that may potentially arise from babysitting duties should be kept strictly between the babysitter and the parent who engaged their services, Seedlings Pre School should not be involved in this unless there is a concern with regard to safeguarding for which we should be informed but will not be responsible for.
- Any babysitting that staff undertake must not affect their working hours or their relationship with the child/children when they are in the setting. Staff who engage themselves to babysit during their contracted work hours could face dismissal.
- Staff are responsible for raising any concerns regarding a child's welfare following a babysitting duty via the appropriate channels. This should be made via the pre school's usual safeguarding procedures.
- Staff and parents must abide by our confidentiality procedures at all times.
- Parents should be aware that although the pre school has policies in place for emergencies, incidents, accidents, administering of medication and what to do in the event of serious illness, injury, fire etc these policies will not apply if you engage a member of staff to babysit. The parent should ensure that they have covered each of these potential situations and agreed how the babysitter should act in the event of an emergency, this should include supplying them with general contacts and emergency contacts. It is also advisable to supply the babysitter with any relevant medical information about the child.
- If a parent wishes a child to be collected from the setting then they must inform us in writing. They should also only engage the staff member outside of working hours which are 8:30 – 4:00pm.