



Little LODGE

0 - 4 YEARS CO-EDUCATIONAL DAY NURSERY

Lockdown Procedures

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Date: Autumn Term 25

Last Reviewed: Autumn Term 25

Next Review Due: Summer Term 26

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1. Introduction

Little Lodge Nursery recognises the potentially serious risks to children, staff and visitors in emergency or harmful situations. Most procedures for handling an emergency are focussed on an event happening in the building. However, in some situations you will be advised to stay put (lock-down) rather than evacuate. 'Lock-down' of a building/group of buildings is intended to secure and protect occupants in the proximity of an immediate threat. By controlling movement in an area, emergency services can contain and handle the situation more effectively.

- > The setting manager (Natalie Snyders – alternatively, Alice Day – Deputy Manager) will check our police website for advice and guidance
- > Staff rehearse simple 'age appropriate' actions with the children such as staying low to the floor, keeping quiet and listening to instructions in the same way that fire procedures are practiced.
- > Lockdown should be rehearsed and recorded termly.
- > The setting manager (Natalie Snyders – alternatively, Alice Day – Deputy Manager) is aware of the current terrorist alert level, as available at www.mi5.gov.uk/threat levels.
- > We follow any additional advice issued by the local authority.
- > Emergency procedures are reviewed and added to if needed.
- > Information about this procedure is shared with parents and all staff are aware of their role during 'lockdown'.
- > A text/phone message is issued to parents when lockdown is confirmed. Suggested wording for parent message: *Due to an incident, we have been advised by the emergency services to secure the premises and stay put until we are given the 'all clear'. Please do not attempt to collect your child until it is safe to do so. We will let you know as soon as we are able to when that is likely to be. In the meantime we need to keep our telephone lines clear and would appreciate your cooperation in not calling unless it is vital that you speak to us.*

Little Lodge Nursery has completed a risk assessment for lockdown scenarios, which informs this procedure and is reviewed annually.

This policy forms part of Little Lodge Nursery's safeguarding procedures as required by EYFS 3.3 and 3.5, ensuring we take all necessary steps to keep children safe and well.

2. Lock-down procedures

- > If an incident happens the setting manager (Natalie Snyders – alternatively, Alice Day – Deputy Manager) acts quickly to assess the likelihood of immediate danger. In most cases the assumption will be that it is safer to stay put and place the setting into 'lockdown' until the emergency services arrive. As soon as the emergency services arrive at the scene staff comply with their instructions.

3. During 'lock-down'

- > Staff and children stay in their designated areas if it is safe to do so. Staff and children in the Baby Room will move to the sleep room. If it is safe to do so, move Pre-School pupils out of their room to either the Baby Room sleep room, or Tweenies.
- > Staff to do a head count and check against registers. The Manager will quickly check the premises for any other children.
- > If children and staff are in the outdoor areas, they will move the children indoors as quickly and appropriately as possible.
- > Doors and windows are secured until further instruction is received.
- > Curtains and blinds are closed where possible.
- > Staff and children stay away from windows and doors.
- > Children are encouraged to stay low and keep calm.
- > Staff do NOT make non-essential calls on mobile phones or landlines.
- > If the fire alarm is activated, staff and children remain in their designated area and await further instructions from emergency services, unless the fire is in their area. In which case, they will move to the next room/area, following usual fire procedures.
- > The door will not be opened once it has been secured until the manager is officially advised "all clear" or is certain it is emergency services at the door.

3. During lockdown staff do NOT:

- > travel down long corridors
- > assemble in large open areas
- > call 999 again unless there is immediate concern for their safety, the safety of others, or they feel they have critical information that must be passed on

4. Following lockdown:

- > Staff will cooperate with emergency services to assist in an orderly evacuation.
- > Staff will ensure that they have the register and children's details.
- > Staff or children who have witnessed an incident will need to tell the police what they saw. The police may require other individuals to remain available for questioning.
- > In the event of an incident, it is inevitable that parents will want to come to the setting and collect their children immediately. They will be discouraged from doing so, until the emergency services give the 'all clear'. Staff will be always acting on the advice of the emergency services.

5. Recording and reporting

- > The setting manager (Natalie Snyders – alternatively, Alice Day – Deputy Manager) reports the lockdown to the owner/director as soon as possible. In some situations, this may not be until after the event.
- > A record is completed as soon as possible.
- > The incident will be reported to Ofsted and Warwickshire Local Authority.

6. Further guidance

- > Members of the public should always remain alert to the danger of terrorism and report any suspicious activity to the police on 999 or the anti-terrorist hotline: 0800 789 321. For non-emergency, call the police on 101.