

Document Retention Policy

Business Records

Policy Statement

We keep records for the purpose of maintaining our business. These include:

- Records pertaining to our registration.
- Financial records pertaining to income and expenditure
- Risk assessments
- Employment records of staff including their name, home address and telephone number.
- Name, address and telephone number of anyone else who is regularly in unsupervised contact with the children.

Our records are regarded as confidential on the basis of sensitivity of information, such as with regard to employment records. These confidential records are maintained with regard to the framework of the Data Protection Act (1998) and the Human Rights Act (1998).

This policy and procedure is taken in conjunction with the Confidentiality Policy.

Procedures

- All records are the responsibility of the Nursery Manager and Office Manager, who ensure they are kept securely. They report to the committee.
- All records are kept in an orderly way in files and filing is kept up-to-date.
- Financial records are kept up-to-date for audit purposes
- Health and safety records are maintained; these include risk assessments, details of checks or inspections and guidance etc.
- Our Ofsted registration certificate is displayed.
- Our Public Liability insurance certificate is displayed
- All our employment and staff records are kept securely and confidentially.

We notify Ofsted of any change:

- In the address of our premises;
- To the premises which may affect the space available to children and the quality of childcare available to them;
- Our name and address and contact information
- To the person managing the setting (Nursery Manager)
- Any significant event which is likely to affect our suitability to look after children; or
- Any other event as detailed in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

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 Data Protection Act (1998) and the Human Rights Act (1998)

This policy and procedure is taken in conjunction with the Confidentiality 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 carers into the child's records.

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

1) Developmental Records

- These include observations of children in the nursery, photographs, video clips and summary developmental records
- These are kept online using Tapestry and can be accessed and contributed to by staff and the child's parents.

2) Personal Records

- These include registration and admission forms, signed consent forms, and correspondence concerning the child or family, reports or minutes from meetings concerning the child from other agencies, an ongoing record of relevant contact with parents, and observations by staff on any confidential matter involving the child, such as developmental concerns or child protection matters.
- Child's development, health and well-being – including a summary only of the child's EYFS profile report
- Early Support – including any additional focussed intervention provided by our setting (e.g. support for behaviour, language or development that needs an Individual Education 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, 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 is secure in the office. Electronic copies of these files are only accessible by the Nursery Manager, Office Manager and Owner of the Nursery and require a password to view.

- We ensure that access to children's files is restricted to those authorised to see them and make entries in them, this being the Nursery Manager, Deputy Managers, Designated Safeguarding Children Officer, SENCO, the child's key person, or other staff as authorised by the Nursery 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 Confidentiality 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
- We retain children's records until after the next Ofsted inspection

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.
- Issues to do with the employment of staff, whether paid or unpaid, remain confidential to the people directly involved with making personnel decisions.
- Students are advised of our Confidentiality Policy and are required to respect it.

Retention Period of Records

We will adhere to the following legal requirements on retention periods for records and as per the advice given by the Pre-School Learning Alliance. In addition, we will endeavour to follow the recommended guidelines where possible and practical

Retention periods for records



Children's records	Retention period	Status	Authority
Children's records - including registers, medication record books and accident record books pertaining to the children	A reasonable period of time after children have left the provision (e.g. until after the next Ofsted inspection)	Requirement	Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (given legal force by Childcare Act 2006)
	Until the child reaches the age of 21 - or until the child reaches the age of 24 for child protection records	Recommendation	Limitation Act 1980 Normal limitation rules (which mean that an individual can claim for negligently caused personal injury up to 3 years after, or deliberately caused personal injury up to 6 years after the event) are postponed until a child reaches 18 years of age
Records of any reportable death, injury, disease or dangerous occurrence	3 years after the date the record was made	Requirement	The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR) (as amended)
Personnel records	Retention period	Status	Authority
Personnel files and training records (including disciplinary records and working time records)	6 years after employment ceases	Recommendation	Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development
DBS check	6 months	Recommendation	DBS Code of Practice The following basic information should be retained after the certificate is destroyed: the date of issue; the name of the subject; the type of disclosure; the position for which the disclosure was requested; the unique reference number; and the details of the recruitment decision taken

<i>Pay</i>			
Wage/salary records (including overtime, bonuses and expenses)	6 years	Requirement	Taxes Management Act 1970
Statutory Maternity Pay (SMP) records	3 years after the end of the tax year to which they relate	Requirement	The Statutory Maternity Pay (General) Regulations 1986
Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) records	3 years after the end of the tax year to which they relate	Requirement	The Statutory Sick Pay (General) Regulations 1982
Income tax and National Insurance returns/records	At least 3 years after the end of the tax year to which they relate	Requirement	The Income Tax (Employments) Regulations 1993 (as amended)
Redundancy details, calculations of payments, refunds, notification to the Secretary of State	6 years after employment ends	Recommendation	Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development
<i>Health and safety</i>			
Staff accident records (for organisations with 10 or more employees)	3 years after the date the record was made (there are separate rules for the recording of accidents involving hazardous substances)	Requirement	Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1979
Records of any reportable death, injury, disease or dangerous occurrence	3 years after the date the record was made	Requirement	The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR) (as amended)
Accident/medical records as specified by the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH)	40 years from the date of the last entry	Requirement	The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH)
Assessments under Health and Safety Regulations and records of consultations with safety representatives and committees	Permanently	Recommendation	Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development
Financial records	Retention period	Status	Authority
Accounting records	3 years from the end of the financial year for private companies. 6 years for public limited companies	Requirement	Companies Act 2006
	6 years for charities	Requirement	Charities Act 2011

Administration records	Retention period	Status	Authority
Employers' liability insurance records	For as long as possible	Recommendation	Health and Safety Executive
Minutes/minute books	10 years from the date of the meeting for companies	Requirement	Companies Act 2006
	6 years from the date of the meeting for Charitable Incorporated Organisations	Requirement	The Charitable Incorporated Organisations (General) Regulations 2012
	Permanently	Recommendation	Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development

This policy was adopted at a meeting of The Natural Nurture Nursery Management Committee held on the 8th February 2016.