Babysitting Policy

Whilst we do not actively encourage babysitting, we recognise it can be a help to parents. This policy is set out to provide clarification on concerns surrounding private babysitting involving nursery staff.

- The nursery cannot be responsible or involved in any private arrangements that are made.
- Babysitting arranged out of hours must not interfere with the staff's employment at Footprints.
- Confidentiality regarding Footprints staff, children or any aspect of employment must be adhered to at all times.
- Parents need to be aware that any other adults accompanying the babysitter may not have a Criminal Records Bureau check, and it may not be appropriate for them to care for children.
- The Nursery cannot be held responsible for any health and safety or other issues arising from these private arrangements.
- Members of nursery staff are not permitted to advertise their babysitting services within the nursery.

The nursery has a duty to safeguard all children whilst on our premises and in the care of our staff, but this duty does not extend to private arrangements between staff and parents/carers outside nursery hours.

In some cases, staff members are asked to take children straight from the nursery to their homes and then babysit. In this case, the parent will need to sign a 'Permission to Take Child Home Form' in which they accept that the nursery cannot be liable or responsible for any occurrence or eventuality, once the child has left our premises. If a form is not signed prior to this, then we cannot let that member of staff take the child off the premises.

Reviewed by Sandra Stedeford, May 2026