

## Lost child

The care of your child is paramount and I will always try to ensure that they remain with me and are safe. However sometimes children can become 'lost' in busy places and therefore as a responsible childminder I have a procedure in place that will be followed in the unlikely event of this happening:

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I will immediately raise the alarm to all around me that I have lost a child and enlist the help of everyone to look for them.

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If it is a secure area such as a shopping centre, I will quickly alert the security staff so they can seal off exits and monitor the situation on any CCTV.

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I will provide everyone involved in the search with a description of the child.

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I will reassure the other children with me, as they may be distressed.

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I will then alert the police and provide a full description.

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I will then alert the parents of the situation.

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Once the child has been found I will record the incident in the accident and incident book as soon as possible.

I take precautions to avoid situations like this happening by implementing the following measures:

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I will carry out a risk assessment of the outing.

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The children will be strapped into a pushchair, using a wrist strap or harness, holding my hand or the pushchair, or walking by my side, depending on their age and stage of development.

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I will avoid going to places that are overcrowded

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I will teach the children about the dangers of wandering off and of talking to strangers.