

Inquiring Little Minds Child Abandonment Policy

At ILM, the safety and well-being of the children is always our main and top priority. In the rare case that parents or guardians cannot be reached or contacted, and that a child is abandoned at our centre, here's what will happen:

What Happens If a Child is Left Behind?

1. **Immediate Care:** We will make sure the child is safe and well taken care of right away.
2. **Contact Emergency Contacts:** We will reach out to the child's emergency contacts to try and arrange care for the child.
3. **If No is Available to Care for the Child:** If the emergency contacts are unable to care for the child, we will contact the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) for assistance.
4. **Keeping the Child Safe:** Our staff will stay with the child and make sure they are cared for until MCFD arrives.
5. **Verifying MCFD Staff:** Before transferring care of the child over, we will check the credentials of the MCFD worker to ensure the child's safety.

Why Do We Do This?

In British Columbia, if a child is abandoned, we are legally required to report it to MCFD. This ensures the child gets the proper care and attention they need.

What We'll Share with MCFD:

- The child's name, age, and where they are.
- Information about the parents or guardians.
- Any details about the child's needs (like language, disabilities, or important support people).