

Nursery in Northampton Shuts Down Permanently After Staff Arrest

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A nursery in Northampton will remain permanently closed following the arrest of a staff member on suspicion of sexual assault. The provider said the decision was made to avoid prolonged uncertainty as authorities continue their investigation.

Child First Nursery, located in Moulton, Northampton, was initially suspended by the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) on May 9 after concerns

were raised about the safety of children in its care. A spokesperson for Ofsted stated the nursery was closed due to “reasonable cause to believe that children may be exposed to a risk of harm.”

Northamptonshire Police arrested a staff member earlier in the year in connection with a sexual assault allegation. The individual was later released on bail, and enquiries remain ongoing. Police have not specified where the alleged incident took place.

The nursery, which had previously received a “good” rating from Ofsted during its most recent inspection, is part of a larger childcare provider that operates additional facilities across Aylesbury, Northampton, Banbury, and Bicester.

In a statement, Child First said it had hoped to reopen but ultimately decided that closing the Moulton site was the most responsible course of action. “With the investigation ongoing, we believe this is the best course of action to end any uncertainty for all those impacted,” the provider said. They also expressed appreciation for the support shown by families and staff throughout the ordeal.

The company noted that affected employees would be offered roles at its other nurseries or provided with assistance in finding new employment. Parents were also offered assistance in securing alternative childcare.

Child First emphasised that the safety and welfare of children have always been its top priority and confirmed it will continue to cooperate fully with authorities as the investigation proceeds.