



Health and Safety Policy

In our setting we believe that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We make our setting a safe and healthy place for children, parents, staff and volunteers. We aim to make children, parents and staff aware of health and safety issues and to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy, stimulating and safe environment.

Our member of staff responsible for health and safety is Sharon Edwards she is competent to carry out these responsibilities and she has undertaken health and safety training and regularly updates her knowledge and understanding.

Staff and helpers are familiar with the requirements of RIDDOR and COSHH and act accordingly

We display the necessary health and safety poster on the notice board and we have public liability insurance and employer's liability insurance. The certificate for which is also placed on the notice board.

Our induction training for staff and volunteers includes a clear concise explanation of health and safety issues so that all adults are able to adhere to our policy and procedures. The induction training covers matters of employee well-being, including safe lifting and the storage of potentially dangerous substances.

Records are kept of these induction training sessions and new staff and volunteers are asked to sign the records to confirm that they have taken part.

As necessary, health and safety training is included in the annual training plans of staff, and health and safety is discussed regularly at staff meetings.

We operate a no smoking policy.

Children are made aware of health and safety issues through discussions, planned activities and routines.

Safety of adults

Adults are provided with guidance about the safe storage, movement, lifting and erection of large pieces of equipment.

The sickness of staff and their involvement in accidents is recorded.

The records are reviewed annually to identify any issues that need to be addressed. We keep a record of all substances that may be hazardous to health - such as cleaning chemicals, or gardening chemicals if used. This states what the risks are and what to do if they have contact with eyes or skin or are ingested. It also states where they are stored. We keep all cleaning chemicals in their original containers in a cupboard which is fitted with a childproof lock in the adult only area.

A correctly stocked first aid box is available at all times.

Windows and doors and floors

Windows above the ground floor are secured so that children cannot climb through them, and we take precautions to prevent children's fingers from being trapped in doors. All floor surfaces are checked daily to ensure they are clean and not uneven, wet or damaged.

Electrical/gas equipment

All electrical/gas equipment conforms to safety requirements and is checked regularly. Our boiler and meter cupboard is not accessible to the children. Fires, heaters, electric sockets, wires and leads are properly guarded and the children are taught not to touch them. Storage heaters are checked daily to make sure they are not covered. There are sufficient sockets to prevent overloading. The temperature of hot water is controlled to prevent scalds. Lighting and ventilation is adequate in all areas including storage areas. All electrical equipment is PAT tested as per requirements. Fire extinguishers are checked annually and staff are trained on their use.

Storage

All resources and materials from which children select are stored safely. All equipment and resources are stored or stacked safely to prevent them accidentally falling or collapsing.

Outdoor area

Our outdoor area is securely fenced. Our outdoor area is checked for safety and cleared of rubbish before it is used. Adults and children are alerted to the dangers of poisonous plants, herbicides and pesticides. Where water can form a pool on equipment, it is emptied before children start playing outside. Our outdoor sand pit is covered when not in use and is cleaned regularly. All outdoor activities are supervised at all times.

Hygiene

We regularly ensure that we keep up-to-date with the latest recommendations. Our daily routines encourage the children to learn about personal hygiene, we actively encourage hand washing after toileting and before meals. Children are encouraged to blow and wipe their noses as and when necessary.

