



Health and Safety Policy

Policy statement: Health and Safety

It is my policy to promote and ensure the good health and safety of children in my care in line with the requirements laid out in the EYFS Framework, by the Health and Safety Executive and Department for Education COVID-19 guidance.

Procedure (how I put the statement into practice)

Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment

- I operate an arrival and departure routine to ensure social distancing measures are followed. You will be asked to drop off and collect your child at a mutually agreed designated time and to stand in the agreed area outside my setting/home (in the garden).
- Parents will not be invited into the setting unless there is a specific need. However, if you need to speak to me we can arrange a mutually suitable time and method. Please contact me via (text or email) to arrange.
- In order to ensure children's safety in my setting I have a range of safety equipment e.g. stair gates, table corner protectors etc which are regularly checked to ensure they are in good repair.
- My smoke alarms are tested regularly and fire drills are carried out and recorded. I have a fire blanket in my kitchen and children and parents are aware of my emergency evacuation procedure. I have a plan of my setting at my entrance and fire exits are clearly marked on this. [emailed to parents on request]
- My premises are secure to ensure children's safety and prevent intruders and I have a procedure for checking the identity of essential visitors e.g. Ofsted Inspectors.
- I will ensure that I take all reasonable steps to ensure any staff and children in my care are not exposed to risks and I will demonstrate how I manage risk.
- My risk assessments will identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis, when and by whom these aspects will be checked and how I will remove or minimise the risk. Risk assessments can be seen on request.

- All equipment used in my childminding business is regularly checked for damage and wear and tear and replaced when necessary, for example high chairs, buggies, cots.
- My car is regularly serviced has an up to date MOT and is insured for business use.
- All car seats are checked regularly and used correctly in accordance with the government rules <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules>. Children will be measured to ensure the car seat is of the correct dimensions for them.
- All gardening equipment is locked in the shed, and dangerous plants have been removed.
- I hold a current paediatric first aid certificate.
- I encourage children to learn about good hygiene by promoting regular hand washing and not to touch mouth, eyes and nose where possible. I have a hand washing procedure where children will be supported to wash their hands for 20 seconds on arrival at the setting, after coughing or sneezing, before eating or any individual food preparation, after touching any pets, after using the toilet. Each child has their own flannel and individual washable wipes are available to use to dry their hands.
- I promote good oral health by offering fresh drinking water at all times, food low in sugars are offered. I talk about what we are eating and why it's healthy. We also talk about our teeth and how we need to keep them clean.
- Bins will be regularly emptied and cleaned.
- I will ensure good ventilation by opening windows.
- When providing snacks, children are encouraged to make healthy choices and the benefits of an active lifestyle are promoted, e.g. access to outdoor play daily. I am aware of the Chief Medical Officer's guidance on physical activity.
- Regular disinfecting of all surfaces takes place following the Government guidance.
- Baby changing mats are cleaned and sanitised after each use.
- I have registered with my local environmental health department, and ensure correct storage, hygiene of food preparation areas and preparation of food procedures are carried out
- I use the safer food, better business for childminders pack as I supply snacks and drinks after school.

- Personal protective equipment will be used in the following situations if a child becomes unwell with symptoms of COVID 19 while in the setting
- All toys will be checked and cleaned regularly to ensure they are safe for your child to use. Any broken or hazardous toys will be removed immediately. Children will only be offered toys and resources that are suitable for their age/stage of development
- I do a quick visual risk assessment of my home every morning before the children arrive to ensure that it is a safe environment for minded children
- All plug sockets not in use have socket covers.
- Car seats are checked regularly to ensure they are correctly fitted.
- I will keep my front door locked with the keys out of reach to prevent the children opening the door to strangers.
- I have procedures in place in the event of a fire (see separate policy)
- I ensure that the children do not have access to any waste, the bins are emptied daily and any used nappies are wrapped and placed in the rubbish bin.
- I have strict Child protection guidelines in place.
- Children must stay with me when we are away from the home. Younger child will be strapped in a pushchair; older children will either be on a harness or wrist strap, or holding onto my hand/pushchair.
- I have emergency contact details with me at all times should I need to contact the parents.
- I will work with you to teach the children about safety issues like crossing the road and stranger danger.
- Sleeping children will be regularly checked and I use baby monitors if needed.
- I discourage the children from keeping 'secrets'
- I will restrain a child if they are putting themselves or others in danger, for example running into a road.

If you have any concerns regarding the health and safety of your child please discuss them with me.

Written by Emma Marshall

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I will handle all data as required under GDPR Guidance.