

General Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting

Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment: Safety

Providers must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises



8.1 Health and safety general standards

Policy statement

The Marshalswick Pre School believes 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 and safe environment.
 - Our member of staff responsible for health and safety is: Mrs Fiona Donoghue.
 - We display the necessary health and safety poster in the main hall at the Pre School.
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Insurance cover

We have public liability insurance and employers' liability insurance. The certificate for public liability insurance is displayed in the main foyer at the Pre School.

Procedures

Awareness raising

- Our induction training for staff and volunteers includes a clear explanation of health and safety issues so that all adults are able to adhere to our policy and procedures as they understand their shared responsibility for health and safety. The induction training covers matters of employee well-being, including safe lifting and the storage of potentially dangerous substances.
- Health and safety issues are explained to the parents of new children so that they understand the part played by these issues in the daily life of the setting.
- When necessary, health and safety training is carried out.
- We operate a no mobile Phone policy
- 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.
- When adults need to reach up to store equipment they are provided with safe equipment to do so.
- All warning signs are clear.
- Adults do not remain in the building on their own or leave on their own after dark.
- The sickness of staff and their involvement in accidents is recorded. The records are reviewed termly to identify any issues that need to be addressed.
- We carry out daily risk assessments monitoring our health and hygiene (red file in kitchen)
- We keep all cleaning chemicals in their original containers.

Windows

- Low level windows are made from materials that prevent accidental breakage or are made safe.
- Windows are protected from accidental breakage or vandalism from people outside the building and locked when not in use.

Doors

- We take precautions to prevent children's fingers from being trapped in doors by placing door stops and blankets on external doors to the garden area.

Floors

- All floor surfaces are checked daily to ensure they are clean and not uneven, wet or damaged (risk assessment)

Electrical/gas equipment

- All electrical/gas equipment conforms to safety requirements and is checked regularly by Sandridge Parish Council (contracts are in the hire agreement of the premises)
- Our boiler/electrical switch gear/meter cupboard is not accessible to the children.
- Heaters are properly guarded and electrical sockets are covered and checked daily via the risk assessment.
- 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.

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 via our daily risk assessment.
- 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.
- All outdoor activities are supervised at all times – staff ratios are met at all times.

Hygiene

- Our daily routines encourage the children to learn about personal hygiene.
- We have a daily cleaning routine for the setting which includes the main hall, kitchen, toilets and nappy changing areas.
- All resources and equipment are cleaned regularly and are checked and monitored on a daily basis.
- The toilet area has a high standard of hygiene including hand washing and drying facilities and the disposal of nappies.
- We implement good hygiene practices by:
 - cleaning tables between activities;
 - cleaning and checking toilets regularly;
 - wearing protective clothing - such as aprons and disposable gloves - as appropriate;
 - providing sets of clean clothes;
 - providing tissues and wipes;
 - A check list is signed by a staff member daily. (found in red folder)

Activities and resources

- Before purchase or loan, equipment and resources are checked to ensure that they are safe for the ages and stages of the children currently attending the setting.
- The layout of play equipment allows adults and children to move safely and freely between activities.
- All equipment is regularly checked for cleanliness and safety and any dangerous items are repaired or discarded.
- All materials, including paint and glue, are non-toxic.
- Sand is clean and suitable for children's play.
- Physical play is constantly supervised – staff ratios are met.
- Children are taught to handle and store tools safely.
- Children learn about health, safety and personal hygiene through the activities we provide and the routines we follow.
- Any faulty equipment is removed from use and is repaired. If it cannot be repaired it is discarded.
- Large pieces of equipment are discarded only with the consent of the manager.

Legal framework

- Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)

- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) (2002)
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended)
- Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992

This policy was adopted on

Date to be reviewed

Signed on behalf of the management

Name of signatory

Role of signatory
