

Health and Safety Policy

Our policy is to provide and maintain safe and healthy working conditions, equipment and systems of work for all our employees and a safe early learning environment in which children are cared for and learn. We provide information, training and supervision to meet this purpose and we wish to develop and promote a strong health and safety culture within the nursery for the benefit of all staff, children and parents.

The allocation of duties for safety matters and the particular arrangements which we will make to implement the policy are set out within this policy and sufficient resources will be made available to honour our commitment.

The policy will be kept up-to-date, particularly as the nursery changes in nature and size and will be revised annually, or as and when required. We therefore welcome any useful comments from members of staff, parents and visitors regarding this policy.

Aims and objectives

The aim of this policy statement is to ensure that all reasonably practical steps are taken to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all persons using the premises.

To achieve this we will actively work towards the following objectives:

- Establish and maintain a safe and healthy environment throughout the nursery including outdoor spaces
- Establish and maintain safe working procedures amongst staff and children
- Make arrangements for ensuring safety and the absence of risks to health in connection with the use, handling, storage and transport of hazardous articles and substances
- Ensure the provision of sufficient information, instruction and supervision to enable all people working in or using the nursery, to avoid hazards and contribute positively

to their own health and safety and to ensure that staff have access to regular health and safety training

- Maintain a healthy and safe nursery and safe entry and exit from it
- Formulate effective procedures for use in case of fire and other emergencies and for evacuating the nursery premises. Practice this procedure on a regular basis to enable the safe and speedy evacuation of the nursery
- Follow the regulations of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and any other relevant legislation
- Maintain a safe working environment for pregnant workers or for workers who have recently given birth including undertaking appropriate risk assessments
- Maintain a safe environment for those with disabilities and ensure all areas of the nursery are accessible (wherever practicable)
- Provide a safe environment for students or trainees to learn in
- Encourage all staff, visitors and parents to report any unsafe working practices or areas to ensure immediate responses by the management.

We believe the risks in the nursery environment to be low and we will maintain the maximum protection for children, staff and parents. The nursery will:

- Ensure all entrances and exits from the building, including fire exits are clearly identifiable and remain clear at all times
- Regularly check the premises room by room for structural defects, worn fixtures and fittings or electrical equipment and take the necessary remedial action
- Ensure that all staff, visitors, parents and children are aware of the fire procedures and regular fire drills are carried out
- Ensure that all members of staff are aware of the procedure to follow in case of accidents for staff, visitors and especially children
- Ensure that all members of staff take all reasonable action to control the spread of infectious diseases and wear protective gloves and clothing where appropriate
- Prohibit smoking on the nursery premises
- Prohibit any contractor from working on the premises without prior discussion with the officer in charge

- Prohibit running inside the premises
- Risk assess all electrical sockets and take appropriate measures to reduce risks where necessary and ensure no trailing wires are left around the nursery
- Ensure all cleaning materials are placed out of the reach of children and kept in their original containers
- Wear protective clothing when cooking or serving food
- Prohibit certain foods, e.g. peanuts are not allowed in the nursery
- We follow the EU Food Information for Food Consumers Regulations (EU FIC). These rules are enforced in the UK by the Food Information Regulations 2014 (FIR). We identify the 14 allergens listed by EU Law that we use as ingredients in any of the dishes we provide to children and ensure that all parents are informed.
- Ensure risk assessments are undertaken on the storage and preparation of food produce within the nursery
- Familiarise all staff and visitors with the position of the first aid boxes and ensure all know who the appointed first aiders are
- Provide detailed risk assessments relevant to those who access the nursery
- Ensure children are supervised at all times
- Ensure no student is left unsupervised at any time.
- Ensure names of staff trained in paediatric first aid are on display

Responsibilities

Responsibility for Health and Safety in the nursery is that of

_____.

The manager has overall and final responsibility for this policy being carried out at:

Nursery Name and address:

The Assistant/Deputy nursery manager will be responsible in his/her absence.

All employees have the responsibility to co-operate with senior staff and the manager to achieve a healthy and safe nursery and to take reasonable care of themselves and others. Neglect of health and safety regulations/duties will be regarded as a disciplinary matter.

Whenever a member of staff notices a health or safety problem, which they are not able to rectify, they must immediately report it to the appropriate person named above. Parents and visitors are requested to report any concerns they may have to the senior member of staff in the area.

Health and Safety Training

Person responsible for monitoring staff training is _____.

All staffs training needs are identified on the staff development and training record.

We follow recommendations set by the Government regarding staff training for First Aid. Staff attend external training and are awarded a full paediatric First Aid at Work certificate, which is renewed every three years.

Townsend Montessori Nurseries Limited aim for all staff to hold a First Aid qualification. All newly qualified entrants to the early years workforce who have completed a level 2 and/or level 3 qualification on or after 30 June 2016, must also have either a full PFA or an emergency PFA certificate within three months of starting work in order to be included in the required staff:child ratios at level 2 or level 3 in an early years setting

Health and safety arrangements

- All staff are responsible for general health and safety in the nursery
- Risk assessments will be conducted on all areas of the nursery, including rooms, activities, outdoor areas, resources and cleaning equipment
- All outings away from the nursery (however short) will include a prior risk assessment – more details are included in our visits and outings policy

- All equipment and areas will be checked thoroughly by staff before children access the area. These checks will be recorded in each room and initialled by the staff responsible. All unsafe areas will be rectified by this member of staff to ensure the safety of children, if this cannot be achieved the manager will be notified immediately
- We provide appropriate facilities for all children, staff, parents and visitors to receive a warm welcome and basic care needs, e.g. easy to access toilet area and fresh drinking water
- The nursery will adhere to Control Of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulation (COSHH) to ensure all children, staff, parents and visitors are safe around any chemicals we may use on the premises
- All staff and students will receive appropriate training in all areas of health and safety which will include risk assessments, manual handling and fire safety
- We have a clear accident and first aid policy to follow in the case of any person in the nursery suffering injury from an accident or incident
- We have a clear fire safety policy and procedure which supports the prevention of fire and the safe evacuation of all persons in the nursery. This is to be shared with all staff, students, parents and visitors to the nursery
- All health and safety matters are reviewed informally on an ongoing basis or when something changes. Staff will receive these updates as with all policy changes as and when they happen
- Staff and parents are able to contribute to any policy through the suggestion scheme and during the regular meetings held at nursery.

Risk assessment

Our risk assessment process includes:

- Checking for hazards and risks indoors and outside, and in our activities and procedures. Our assessment covers adults and children;
- Deciding which areas need attention; and

- Developing an action plan which specifies the action required the timescales for action, the person responsible for the action and any funding required.

Insurance Cover

We have public liability insurance and employers' liability insurance. The certificate is displayed in the reception area.

This policy was adopted on	Date for review
23.12.19	December 2020