

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Safety of Premises, Environment and Equipment.
Providers must have a clear and well-understood policy and procedures for assessing any risks to children's safety and review assessments regularly.

Risk Assessment

Policy statement

This setting 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 by assessing and minimising the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment. We consider aspects of the benefits to children's development when assessing potential risks/hazards in our environment.

The basis of this policy is risk assessment. We follow procedures as advised in the HSE document 'Five Steps To Risk Assessment' in order to help us to identify potential hazards/risks and to take appropriate actions.

We ask ourselves: - Identification of risk: Where is it and what is it? - Who is at risk: Childcare staff, children, parents, cooks, cleaners etc? - Assessment as to the level of risk as high, medium, low. This is both the risk of the likelihood of it happening, as well as the possible impact if it did. - Control measures to reduce/eliminate risk: What will you need to do, or ensure others will do, in order to reduce that risk? - Monitoring and review: How do you know if what you have said is working, or is thorough enough? If it is not working, we may amend our procedure - we monitor/record our findings in our Health and Safety file.

EYFS Key Themes and Commitments

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|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| A Unique Child | Positive Relationships | Enabling Environments | Learning and Development |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|

Characteristics of Effective Learning

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| Playing and Exploring Engagement | Active Learning Motivation | Creating and Thinking Critically - Thinking |
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Procedures

- Our risk assessment process covers adults and children and includes:
- Determining where it is helpful to make some written risk assessments in relation to specific issues, to inform staff practice and to demonstrate how we are managing risks if asked by parents and/or carers or inspectors. - checking for and noting hazards and risks indoors and outside, and in our premises and for activities; - assessing the level of risk and who might be affected; - deciding which areas need attention; and - developing an action plan that

specifies the action required, the time-scales for action, the person responsible for the action and any funding required. Where more than five staff and volunteers are employed the risk assessment is written and is reviewed regularly.

We maintain lists of health and safety issues, which are checked daily before the session begins as well as those that are checked on a weekly and termly basis when a full risk assessment is carried out.

Legal framework

Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)

Further guidance

Five Steps to Risk Assessment (HSE 2011), www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg163.pdf, Risk Management in Early Years Settings (2007), www.southglos.gov.uk www.teachernet.gov.uk/publications

Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications

Managing Risk (2009)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'AR' followed by a stylized flourish.

Signed on behalf of Hook Village Nursery
Chairperson

Updated October 2021