

Health and Safety Policy

Aim

It is our policy to promote and ensure the good health and safety of children in our care in line with the requirements laid out in the EYFS Framework, and Health and Safety Executive.

Procedure

Safety and suitability of premises, environment and equipment

In light of Covid-19 we will be operating an arrival and departure routine to ensure social distancing measures are followed. You will be asked to drop and collect your child at a mutually agreed designated time and to stand two metres back from outside the rear garden gate. The childminder will collect the child from a pickup spot at the gate. Where a child is unsettled the child will be placed in a pushchair, the parent will be asked to stand back and childminder collect the child from the pushchair. Parents will not be invited into the setting during this period. If you need to speak to a childminder we can arrange a mutually suitable time and method on the day.

In order to ensure children's safety in my setting we have a range of safety equipment e.g. stair gates, a fire guard, cooker guard, electric safety sockets, high chairs, car seats, walking harnesses and wrist straps which are regularly checked to ensure they are in good repair.

Our smoke alarms are tested regularly and fire drills are carried out and recorded. We have a fire blanket, fire extinguisher and carbon monoxide monitor in the kitchen (located near the doorway to the playroom). The children and parents are aware of the emergency evacuation procedure.

Our premises are secure to ensure children's safety and prevent intruders and we have a procedure for checking the identity of visitors.

We will ensure that we take all reasonable steps to ensure any staff and children in our care are not exposed to risks and we will demonstrate how we manage risk.

- We have full written risk assessments to identify aspects of the setting environment or setting procedures that need to be checked regularly. These are reviewed annually by Lorna Ford. Any changes to procedures or adaptations to the environment are then acted upon. An overall offsite activities risk assessment has been written to cover regular planned activities such as visiting local parks, local walks or shopping. We will risk assess any new offsite activities such as organised play sessions or trips out, to remove or minimise identified risks. A coronavirus (covid-19) risk assessment

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has been written. In light of rolling Covid-19 government guidance updates this will be updated as is required.

All equipment used in our childminding business is regularly checked for damage and wear and tear and replaced when necessary, for example high chairs, buggies, cots, toys and resources.

Our car is regularly serviced, has an up to date MOT and insured for business use. Child locks on the rear car doors are in operation.

All car seats are checked regularly and used correctly in accordance with seat belt regulations. In light of Covid-19 car journeys will only be undertaken in the event of an emergency where medical treatment is required.

All gardening equipment is locked in the garage, and the garden has been checked by a gardener for any dangerous plants.

We hold a current paediatric first aid certificates.

Health

Lorna Ford holds a basic food hygiene certificate

We encourage children to learn about good hygiene by promoting regular hand washing and not to touch mouth, eyes and nose where possible. In light of Covid-19 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 and using the toilet. We use liquid soap and the children are shown how to use a clean hand towel each time they wash their hands. Children have access to both indoor and outdoor handwashing facilities.

Bins will be regularly emptied and cleaned

We will ensure good ventilation by opening windows. In light of Covid-19 the children will have use of the outdoor playroom and garden during the day. Sleeping children will have use of the indoor or outdoor playroom.

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. We are aware of the Chief Medical Office guidance to physical activity available online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-physical-activity-guidelines>

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As part of the Ofsted registration we are registered with the local environmental health department, and ensure correct storage, hygiene of food preparation areas and preparation of food.

Our pets are kept away from food preparation areas and their food bowls are out of reach of children. We have two cats at the setting and endeavour to keep them away from food preparation areas. If they come into contact with work surfaces these are cleaned with an antibacterial cleaner. The cats are up to date with worming and flea treatment

Regular disinfecting of all surfaces including; tables, chairs, work tops, door handles, toilets and sinks will take place following the government guidance issued.

All areas accessible to children, including toys, play mats, and equipment are regularly cleaned and disinfected and checked for damage. In light of Covid-19 a risk assessment will be carried out to identify toys that pose the greatest risk of transmission, and steps taken to minimise that risk. Where messy/ malleable play activities are provided, these will be available to individual children and not shared.

The children's cloakroom is cleaned after each time it is used during the day (toilet, basin and taps, door handles) and deep cleaned at the end of each day. Where required due to a toilet accident the cloakroom will be deep cleaned during the day. Parents are required to provide a folding changing mat which is cleaned after each use.

Personal protective equipment will be used by the childminder in the following situations:

- Gloves and apron during intimate care
- Gloves, apron, face mask and eye protection if a child becomes unwell with symptoms of coronavirus while in the setting in accordance with relevant Government guidance.

This policy also links with our accident and emergency procedures, illness, risk assessment, no smoking and outings policy.

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Childminder's name	Lorna ford
Childminder's signature	
Date	28-5-2020
Childminder's name	David Ford
Childminder's signature	
Date	28-5-2020

Date policy was written	28-5-2020
This policy is due for review on the following date	28-5-2021

This policy supports the following requirements and standards:

England

Meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements

Safety and Suitability of premises, environment and equipment. Risk Assessment

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