

Health and Safety – General Policy Statement

At Shape Childcare Services we 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 learn and are cared for. To develop and promote a strong health and safety culture within the setting for the benefit of all staff, children and parents, we provide information, training and supervision. We also accept our responsibility for the health and safety of other people who may be affected by our activities.

The allocation of duties for safety matters and the particular arrangements which we will make to implement our health and safety procedures are set out within this policy and we make sufficient resources available to provide a safe environment.

Legal framework

We follow all relevant legislation and associated guidance relating to health and safety within the setting including:

- The requirements of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 2017.
- The regulations of the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and any other relevant legislation such as Control Of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulation (COSHH) or (RIDDOR).
- Any guidance provided by Public Health England, the local health protection unit, the local authority environmental health department, fire authority or the Health and Safety Executive.

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:

- 1) Establish and maintain a safe and healthy environment throughout the setting including outdoor spaces
- 2) Establish and maintain safe working practices amongst staff and children
- 3) Make arrangements for ensuring safety and the minimizing of risks to health in connection with the use, handling, storage and transport of hazardous articles and substances

- 4) Ensure the setting of sufficient information, instruction and supervision to enable all people working in or using the setting 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
- 5) Maintain a healthy and safe setting with safe entry and exit routes
- 6) Formulate effective procedures for use in case of fire and other emergencies and for evacuating the premises. Practice this procedure on a regular basis to enable the safe and speedy evacuation of the setting (see [Fire Evacuation Policy](#))
- 7) Maintain a safe working environment for pregnant workers or for workers who have recently given birth, including undertaking appropriate risk assessments
- 8) Maintain a safe environment for those with special educational needs and disabilities and ensure all areas of the setting are accessible (wherever practicable)
- 9) Provide a safe environment for students or trainees to learn in
- 10) Encourage all staff, visitors and parents to report any unsafe working practices or areas to ensure immediate response by the management.

We believe the risks in the setting's environment are low and we will maintain the maximum protection for children, staff and parents. The setting will:

- 11) Ensure all entrances and exits from the building, including fire exits are clearly identifiable and remain clear at all times
- 12) Regularly check the premises room by room for structural defects, worn fixtures and fittings or electrical equipment and take the necessary remedial action
- 13) Ensure that all staff, visitors, parents and children are aware of the fire procedures and regular fire drills are carried out (see [Fire Safety Policy](#))
- 14) Have the appropriate fire detection and control equipment which is checked regularly to make sure it is in working order
- 15) Ensure that all members of staff are aware of the procedure to follow in case of accidents for staff, visitors and children
- 16) 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
- 17) Ensure there are suitable hygienic changing facilities (see [Infection Control Policy](#))
- 18) Prohibit smoking on the premises (see [Drug Alcohol and Smoking Policy](#))
- 19) Prohibit any contractor from working on the premises without prior discussion with the officer in charge and following the visitor protocols

- 20) Encourage children to manage risks safely and prohibit running inside the premises unless in designated areas
- 21) Risk assess all electrical sockets and take appropriate measures to reduce risks where necessary and ensure no trailing wires are left around the setting (see **Risk Assessment Policy**)
- 22) Ensure all cleaning materials are placed out of the reach of children and kept in their original containers
- 23) Prohibit certain foods that may relate to children's allergies, e.g. peanuts are not allowed in the setting (see **Food and Drink Policy**)
- 24) 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 - Listed in main kitchen area (see **Food and Drink Policy**)
- 25) Ensure risk assessments are undertaken on the storage and preparation of food produce within the setting (see **Food Hygiene Policy**)
- 26) Familiarize all staff and visitors with the position of the first aid boxes and ensure all know who the appointed first aiders are (see **Accident and Incident Policy**)
- 27) Provide appropriately stocked first aid boxes and check their contents regularly
- 28) Ensure children are supervised at all times
- 29) Ensure no student or volunteer is left unsupervised at any time
- 30) Ensure staff pediatric first aid certificates are made available to parents upon request.

Responsibilities

The designated Health and Safety Officer in the setting is **Marcus Davy**.

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

**Shape Lindley C.I.C.
14B Holly Bank Rd
Lindley
Huddersfield
HD3 3JE**

The setting manager/deputy setting managers will be responsible in his/her absence.

- 31) All employees have the responsibility to cooperate with senior staff and the manager to achieve a healthy and safe setting and to take reasonable care of themselves and others. Neglect of health and safety regulations/duties will be regarded as a disciplinary matter (see **Disciplinary Procedures Policy**)
- 32) 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 manager
- 33) Daily contact and termly staff meetings provide consultation between management and employees. This will include health and safety matters

Health and Safety Training

The person responsible for monitoring staff training is **Marcus Davy**.

- 34) Health and safety is covered in all inductions for new staff.

Health and safety arrangements

- 35) All staff are responsible for general health and safety within the setting
- 36) Risk assessments will be conducted on all areas of the setting, including rooms, activities, outdoor areas, resources and cleaning equipment
- 37) These are reviewed at regular intervals and when arrangements change
- 38) All outings away from the setting (however short) will include a prior risk assessment (see **Outings and Visits Policy**)
- 39) All equipment, rooms and outdoor areas will be checked thoroughly by staff before children access them or the area. These checks will be recorded and initialed by the staff responsible. Unsafe areas will be made safe/removed from the area by this member of staff to promote the safety of children. If this cannot be achieved the manager will be notified immediately (see **Staff Handbook** see **Adverse Weather Policy**)
- 40) We provide appropriate facilities for all children, staff, parents and visitors to receive a warm welcome and provide for their basic care needs, e.g. easy to access toilet area and fresh drinking water
- 41) The setting will adhere to the Control Of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulation (COSHH) to ensure all children, staff, parents and visitors are safe in relation to any chemicals we may use on the premises
- 42) 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 may also use benefit risk assessments for particular activities and resources for children

- 43) We have a clear **Accident and Incident Policy** to follow in the case of any person in the setting suffering injury from an accident or incident
- 44) We have a clear **Fire Safety Policy** and **Procedure and Emergency Evacuation Policy** which supports the prevention of fire and the safe evacuation of all persons in the setting. This is to be shared with all staff, students, parents and visitors to the setting
- 45) We review accident and incident records to identify any patterns/hazardous areas
- 46) All health and safety matters are reviewed informally on an ongoing basis and formally every six months or where there has been a change. Staff and parents will receive these updates, as with all policy changes, as and when they happen
- 47) Staff and parents are able to contribute to any policy through the suggestion scheme and during informal discussion held at the setting

The policy is kept up to date and reviewed especially when the setting changes in nature and size. It is revised annually, or as and when required. We therefore welcome any useful comments from members of staff, parents and visitors regarding this policy.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the setting	Date for review
<i>30th October 2018</i>	<i>Marcus Davy</i>	<i>30th April 2019</i>