

Health and Safety

Policy

*****Please also see our health and safety procedures*****

Designated Health and Safety Officer at St Joseph's Pre-School Unit is: Lisa Bigg

Aim

At St Joseph's Pre-School Unit, we aim to provide a suitable, clean, and safe place for children to be cared for, where they can grow and learn. We aim to meet the statutory requirements for health and safety and fulfil the criteria for meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements.

Objectives

- At St Joseph's Pre-School we recognise that we have a responsibility and duty of care towards those who work in and receive a service from our Pre-School provision. Individual staff and service users also have responsibility for ensuring their own safety as well as that of others. Adherence to the Pre-School Policies and Procedures and risk assessments is the key means through which this is achieved.
- The Pre-School Unit has Insurance in place (including public liability) and a copy of the up-to-date certificate is displayed.
- Risk assessments are carried out to ensure the safety of children, staff, parents, and visitors. (Legislation requires all those individuals in the given workplace to be responsible for the health and safety of premises, equipment and working practices).
- Smoking is not allowed on the premises, both indoors and outdoors. If children use any public space that has been previously used for smoking, members of staff will ensure that there is adequate ventilation to clear the atmosphere. Staff do not smoke in their work clothes and are requested not to smoke within view of the Pre-School Unit. The use of electronic cigarettes is also not allowed on the premises.
- Staff will not be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance which may affect their ability to care for children. If staff are taking medication that they believe may impair them, they will be required to seek further medical advice and only work directly with children if that advice is that the medication is unlikely to impair their ability to look after children. The Pre-School Unit Manager must be informed.
- Alcohol will not be bought onto the premises for consumption.
- A risk assessment and access audit are carried out for each area used by the Pre-School, and the procedures are modified according to any risks or access needs identified for the environment.

- Risk assessments are monitored and reviewed at least annually by the Manager and/or Deputy Manager who are responsible for health and safety.

Legal references

Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974

Health and Safety (Consultation with Employees) Regulations 1996

Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005)

Electricity at Work Regulations (1989)

Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the hygiene of foodstuffs

Manual Handling Operations Regulations (1992) (Amended 2002)

Medicines Act (1968)

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) (Amendment) Regulations 2012

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2004

Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981

Childcare Act 2006

Further guidance

Health and Safety Executive www.hse.gov.uk/risk

Food Standards Agency www.food.gov.uk

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government www.communities.gov.uk