

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Safety and Suitability of Premises, Environment and Equipment

Providers must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises in the case of fire or any other emergency, and must have an emergency evacuation procedure.



8.5 Fire safety and emergency evacuation

Policy statement

We ensure the highest possible standard of fire precautions are in place. The room leader is familiar with the current legal requirements. Where necessary we seek the advice of a competent person, such as our Fire Officer or Fire Safety Consultant. A Fire Safety Log Book is used to record the findings of risk assessment, any actions taken or incidents that have occurred and our fire drills. Downloadable Fire Safety Log Books are widely available free of charge on line. We ensure our policy is in line with the procedures specific to our building, making reasonable adjustments as required.

Procedures

Fire safety risk assessment

- The basis of fire safety is risk assessment, carried out by a 'competent person'.
- The Fire officer has received training in fire safety sufficient to be competent to carry out the risk assessment; this will be written and will follow the Government guidance Fire Safety Risk Assessment - Educational Premises (HMG 2006).
 - Our fire safety risk assessment focuses on the following for each area of the setting:
 - Electrical plugs, wires and sockets.
 - Electrical items.
 - Gas boilers.
 - Cookers.
 - Matches.
 - Flammable materials – including furniture, furnishings, paper etc.
 - Flammable chemicals.
 - Means of escape.
 - Anything else identified.
- Where we rent premises, we will ensure that we have a copy of the fire safety risk assessment that applies to the building and that we contribute to regular reviews.

Fire safety precautions taken

- We ensure that fire doors are clearly marked, never obstructed and easily opened from the inside.
- We ensure that smoke detectors/alarms and fire fighting appliances conform to BS EN standards, are fitted in appropriate high-risk areas of the building and are checked as specified by the manufacturer.
- We have all electrical equipment checked annually by a qualified electrician. Any faulty electrical equipment is taken out of use and either repaired or replaced.
- Our emergency evacuation procedures are approved by the Fire Safety Officer and are:
 - clearly displayed in the premises;
 - explained to new members of staff, volunteers and parents; and
 - practised regularly, at least once in every session, every six weeks.
- Records are kept of fire drills and of the servicing of fire safety equipment.

Emergency evacuation procedure

- We run a fire drill within every session, using whistles.
- The children follow the staff outside and into the car park.
- The children know to follow the staff, the Fire safety officer wears a high viz jacket and uses a whistle to direct the children.
- Fire exits are clearly marked.
- The staff space out between the children and everyone holds hands, in twos.
- The register is taken by the Fire Officer and the register is taken once safely in the Car Park.
- The whole process takes less than 5 minutes.
- In the event of a real fire the contact folder is brought outside by the Business Manager/Administrator with the phone.
- All parents will then be notified.

Fire drills

We hold fire drills half termly and record the following information about each fire drill in the Fire Safety Log Book:

- The date and time of the drill.
- Number of adults and children involved.
- How long it took to evacuate.
- Whether there were any problems that delayed evacuation.
- Any further action taken to improve the drill procedure.

Legal framework

- Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

Further guidance

- Fire Safety Risk Assessment - Educational Premises (HMG 2006)

This policy was adopted by

Noah's Ark Pre School

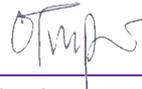
On

1st May 2019

Date to be reviewed

1st May 2020

Signed on behalf of the provider



Name of signatory

Charlotte Turpin

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)

Chairperson

Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications

- Fire Safety Record (2015)