



### **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.

#### **Health:**

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting.

## **Health and safety general standards**

### **Policy statement**

Padbury pre-school believes that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We make our pre-school a safe and healthy place for children, parents and staff.

- We aim to make children, parents and staff aware of health and safety issues and to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment.
- Our member of staff responsible for health and safety is:

**The Pre-school Leader – Amanda Smith**

- She is competent to carry out these responsibilities.
- We display the necessary health and safety poster in

**The pre-school window / cloakroom**

### *Insurance cover*

We have public liability insurance and employers' liability insurance. The certificate for public liability insurance is displayed in:

**The pre-school window**

*where fun becomes learning!*

## **Procedures**

### *Awareness raising*

- Padbury Pre-school's induction training for staff includes a clear explanation of health and safety issues so that all adults are able to adhere to our policy and procedures as they understand their shared responsibility for health and safety. The induction training covers matters of employee well-being, including safe lifting and the storage of potentially dangerous substances.
- Records are kept of these induction training sessions and new staff are asked to sign the records to confirm that they have taken part.
- Health and safety issues are explained to the parents of new children so that they understand the part played by these issues in the daily life of the pre-school.
- As necessary, health and safety training is included in the annual training plans of staff, and health and safety is discussed regularly at staff meetings.
- We operate a no smoking policy.
- Children are made aware of health and safety issues through discussions, planned activities and routines.

### *Safety of adults*

- Adults are provided with guidance about the safe storage, movement, lifting and erection of large pieces of equipment.
- When adults need to reach up to store equipment or to change light bulbs they are provided with safe equipment to do so.
- All warning signs are clear and in appropriate languages.
- Adults do not remain in the building on their own or leave on their own after dark.
- The sickness of staff and their involvement in accidents is recorded. The records are reviewed termly to identify any issues that need to be addressed.
- We keep a record of all substances that may be hazardous to health (our COSHH list) - such as cleaning chemicals, or gardening chemicals if used. This states what the risks are and what to do if they have contact with eyes or skin or are ingested. It also states where they are stored.
- We keep all cleaning chemicals in their original containers.

### *Windows*

- Low level windows are made from materials that prevent accidental breakage or are made safe.

- Windows are protected from accidental breakage or vandalism from people outside the building.
- Windows above the ground floor are secured so that children cannot climb through them.
- We ensure that any blind cords are secured safely and do not pose a strangulation risk for young children.

#### *Doors*

- We take precautions to prevent children's fingers from being trapped in doors.

#### *Floors and Walkways*

- All floor surfaces are checked daily to ensure they are clean and not uneven, wet or damaged. Any wet spills are mopped up immediately.
- Walkways and stairs are left clear and uncluttered.
- Stair gates are in place at kitchen door.

#### *Electrical/gas equipment*

- All electrical/gas equipment conforms to safety requirements and is checked regularly.
- Our boiler/electrical switch gear/meter cupboard is not accessible to the children.
- Electric sockets, wires and leads are properly guarded and the children are taught not to touch them.
- We check storage heaters daily to make sure they are not covered.
- We switch electrical devices off from the plug after use.
- There are sufficient sockets to prevent overloading.
- The temperature of hot water is controlled to prevent scalds.
- Lighting and ventilation is adequate in all areas including storage areas.

#### *Storage*

- All resources and materials from which children select are stored safely.
- All equipment and resources are stored or stacked safely to prevent them accidentally falling or collapsing.

#### *Outdoor area*

- Our outdoor area is securely fenced. All gates and fences are safe.
- Our outdoor area is checked for safety and cleared of rubbish, animal droppings and any other unsafe items before it is used.
- Where water can form a pool on equipment, it is emptied before children start playing outside.
- Our outdoor sand pit is covered when not in use and is cleaned regularly.
- All outdoor activities are supervised at all times.

- We check that children are suitably attired for the weather conditions and type of outdoor activities.

### *Hygiene*

- We regularly seek information from the Public Health England to ensure that we keep up-to-date with the latest recommendations.
- Our daily routines encourage the children to learn about personal hygiene.
- We have a daily cleaning routine for the pre-school.
- We have a schedule for cleaning resources and equipment, dressing-up clothes and furnishings.
- The toilet area has a high standard of hygiene including hand washing and drying facilities and the disposal of nappies.
- We implement good hygiene practices by:
  - cleaning tables between activities;
  - cleaning toilets regularly;
  - wearing protective clothing - such as aprons and disposable gloves - as appropriate;
  - providing sets of clean clothes;
  - providing tissues and wipes

### *Activities and resources*

- Before purchase or loan, equipment and resources are checked to ensure that they are safe for the ages and stages of the children currently attending the pre-school.
- The layout of play equipment allows adults and children to move safely and freely between activities.
- All equipment is regularly checked for cleanliness and safety and any dangerous items are repaired or discarded.
- All materials, including paint and glue, are non-toxic.
- Sand is clean and suitable for children's play.
- Physical play is constantly supervised.
- Children are taught to handle and store tools safely.
- Children learn about health, safety and personal hygiene through the activities we provide and the routines we follow.
- Any faulty equipment is removed from use and is repaired. If it cannot be repaired it is discarded.
- If children fall asleep in-situ, it may be necessary to move or wake them to make sure they are comfortable.
- Large pieces of equipment are discarded only with the consent of the pre-school leader.

### *Jewellery and accessories*

- Our staff do not wear jewellery or fashion accessories, such as high heels that may pose a danger to themselves or children.
- Parents must ensure that any jewellery worn by children poses no danger, particularly ear rings which may get pulled, bracelets which can get caught when climbing or necklaces that may pose a risk of strangulation.

### **Legal Framework**

- Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992
- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations(COSHH) (2002)
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended)
- Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992

### **Further guidance (for staff and parents)**

- *Health and Safety Law: What you Should Know (HSE Revised 2009)*
- *Health and Safety Regulation...a Short Guide (HSE 2003)*
- Electrical Safety and You (HSE 2012)
- COSHH: A Brief Guide to the Regulations (HSE Revised 2009)
- Manual Handling – Frequently Asked Questions (HSE 2011)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	<u>Padbury Pre-school</u>	name of setting
Held on	<u>22/04/24</u>	(date)
Date to be reviewed	<u>22/04/27</u>	(date)
Signed on behalf of the committee	<u>A.J.Smith</u>	
Name of signatory	<u>Miss Amanda Smith</u>	
Role of signatory	<u>Pre-school Manager</u>	