



# Bowes Pre-School & Holiday Club

## 8.1 Health and Safety general standards

**Safeguarding and Welfare requirement: Safety and sustainability of premises, environment and equipment.**

Bowes Pre-school must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises.

### Health

Bowes Pre-school must promote the good health of children attending the setting.

Our setting believes that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We make our setting a safe and healthy place for children, parents, staff and volunteers.

- We aim to make children, parents, staff and volunteers 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: **Nicky Alderson**
- She is competent to carry out these responsibilities
- She has undertaken health and safety training and regularly updates her knowledge and understanding.
- We display the necessary health and safety poster in: **Entrance Area**

### Insurance cover

We have public liability insurance and employer's liability insurance. The certificate for public liability insurance is displayed: **Above the main entrance door**

### Procedures

#### Awareness raising

- Our induction training for staff and volunteers 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 and volunteers 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 setting.
- 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 – 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.

## **Doors**

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

## **Floors**

- All floor surfaces are checked daily to ensure they are clean and not uneven, wet or damaged.

## **Electrical equipment**

- All electrical equipment conforms to safety requirements and is checked by a professional regularly.
- Our electrical switch/meter is not accessible to children.
- Fires, heaters, electric sockets, wires and leads are properly guarded and the children are taught not to touch them.
- Heaters are checked daily to make sure they are not covered.
- There are sufficient sockets to prevent overloading.
- The temperature of the hot water is controlled to prevent scalds.
- Lighting and ventilation is adequate in all areas including storage areas.

## **Storage**

- All resources and materials, which are used by the children, 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.
- Our outdoor area is checked for safety and cleared of rubbish before it is used.
- Adults and children are alerted to the dangers of poisonous plants, herbicides and pesticides.
- The pond area is securely locked and only accessible with an adult.
- 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.

## Hygiene

- We seek information from the Health protection Agency 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 setting, which includes the play area, kitchen and bathroom/nappy changing area.
- 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.
- We implement good hygiene practices by:
  - Cleaning tables between activities;
  - Cleaning and checking toilets regularly;
  - Wearing protective clothing – such as aprons and disposable gloves – as appropriate;
  - Providing sets of clean clothes – if children do not have their own spare clothes; and
  - Providing tissues

## Activities and resources

- Before equipment is purchased or loaned, it is checked to ensure that it is safe for the ages and stages of the children currently attending the setting.
- 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 who are sleeping are checked regularly
- Children learn about health, safety and personal hygiene through activities we provide and the routines we follow
- Any faulty equipment is removed from use and repaired. If it cannot be repaired it is discarded.
- Large pieces of equipment are discarded only with the consent of the manager.


## Legal Framework

- Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)
- Electricity at Work Regulations (1989)
- Control of substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) (2002)
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations (1992 (As amended 2004))
- Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations (1992)

## Further Guidance

- Health and Safety Law: What you need to know (HSE Revised 2009)
- Health and Safety Regulations.... A short guide (HSE 2003)
- Electrical Safety and You: A brief Guide (HSE 2012)
- Working with Substances Hazardous to Health: What you need to know about COSHH (HSE Revised 2009)
- Getting to grips with manual handling – Frequently asked questions: A short guide (HSE 2011)

This policy is fully supported by the Manager, Staff, Committee and parents/carers of Bowes Pre-School.



Signed:- ..... (Chairperson)

Print Name: ..... Date: .....

Signed:- ..... (Manager)

Print Name: ..... Date: .....

Review date: .....