

Bow Lane Pre-school

The Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Staff qualifications, training, support and skills

Providers must ensure that adults looking after children, or having unsupervised access to them, are suitable to do so.

Staff qualifications, training, support and skills

3.1 Employment and staffing

(Including vetting, contingency plans, training and development)

Policy Statement

We provide a staffing ratio in line with the Welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure that children have sufficient individual attention and to guarantee care and education of a high quality. Our staff are appropriately qualified and we carry out checks for criminal and other records through the Disclosure and Baring Service in accordance with statutory requirements.

EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.3 Keeping safe	2.4 Key person	3.4 The wider context	

Procedures

Ratios

- To meet this aim we use the following ratios of adult to children:
 - children aged two years of age: 1 adult : 4 children; and
 - children aged three to five years of age: 1 adult : 8 children.
- A minimum of two staff/adults are on duty at any one time.
- We use a key person approach to ensure that each child has a named member of staff with whom to form a relationship and who plans with parents for the child's well-being and development in the setting. The key person (or back up key person) will be there on the days the child attends for discussion on their child's progress.

- We hold regular staff meetings to undertake curriculum planning and to discuss children's progress, their achievements and any difficulties that may arise from time to time.

Vetting and staff selection

- We work towards offering equality of opportunity by using non-discriminatory procedures for staff recruitment and selection.
- All staff have job descriptions which set out their staff roles and responsibilities.
- We welcome applications from all sections of the community. Applicants will be considered on the basis of their suitability for the post, regardless of marital status, age, gender, culture, religious belief, ethnic origin or sexual orientation. Applicants will not be placed at a disadvantage by our imposing conditions or requirements that are not justifiable.
- We use Ofsted guidance on obtaining references and enhanced Disclosing and Barring checks through the Criminal Records Bureau for staff and volunteers who will have unsupervised access to children. This is in accordance with requirements under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 for the vetting and barring scheme.
- We keep all records relating to employment of staff and volunteers, in particular those demonstrating that checks have been done, including the date and number of the enhanced CRB check and who obtained it..

Changes to staff

- We inform Ofsted of any changes in the person responsible for our setting. This is the manager.

Training and staff development

- The registered provider holds the level 4 qualification in Early Years Practice and the manager and deputy hold a level 3. We provide regular in-service training to all staff - whether paid staff or volunteers Our setting budget allocates resources to training.
- We provide staff induction training in the first week of employment. This induction includes our Health and Safety Policy/Child Protection Policy/British values and behaviour policy. Other policies and procedures will be introduced within an induction plan.
- We support the work of our staff by holding regular meetings and appraisals.
- All staff are deployed according to the needs of the setting and the children attending.
- We are committed to recruiting, appointing and employing staff in accordance with all relevant legislation and best practice.

Managing staff absences and contingency plans for emergencies

- Our staff take their holiday breaks when the setting is closed. Where staff may need to take time off for any reason other than sick leave or training, this is agreed with the manager with sufficient notice.

- Where staff are unwell and take sick leave in accordance with their contract of employment, we organise cover to ensure ratios are maintained.
- Sick leave is monitored and action is taken where necessary in accordance with the contract of employment.
- We have contingency plans to cover staff absences, as follows:

We have a list of adults that can be called in as needed.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	Bow Lane Pre-school	name of setting
Held on	6 th September 2019	(date)
Date to be reviewed	6 th September 2020	(date)
Signed on behalf of Bow Lane Pre-school		
Name of signatory	Gaye Hooker	
Role of signatory	Owner	