

# Bow Lane Pre-school

## The Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Safety and Suitability of premises, environment and equipment

Outdoor and indoor spaces, furniture and toys must be safe and suitable for their purpose.

### Safety

#### 8.1 Health and safety general standards

##### Policy statement

Bow Lane Pre-school 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 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:

Michael Hooker and Zoe Pearson

- He is competent to carry out these responsibilities..

- We display the necessary health and safety poster on

**The staff notice board located in the stock cupboard**

##### *Insurance cover*

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

##### **The parents notice board**

##### EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.3 Keeping safe 1.4 Health and well-being		3.3 The learning environment	

##### 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.
- 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.
- 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. All windows in the hall have a grid on them.

#### *Doors*

- We take precautions to prevent children's fingers from being trapped in doors. They are hooked back or have a cap on the top to prevent closing.

#### *Floors*

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

#### *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.
- Fires, heaters, electric sockets, wires and leads are properly guarded and the children are taught not to touch them. The electrical sockets are high on the walls to prevent children touching them.
- Storage heaters are checked daily to make sure they are not covered.
- 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. There is barrier fencing in the play area and an external fence off of this.
- 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.
- 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 regularly seek information from the Environmental Health Department and the Health Authority 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 play room(s), kitchen, rest area, toilets and nappy changing areas.

- 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 toilets regularly;
  - wearing protective clothing - such as aprons and disposable gloves - as appropriate;
  - providing sets of clean clothes;
  - providing tissues and wipes; and

#### *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 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. This is done as it is brought out to use.
- 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.
- Large pieces of equipment are discarded only with the consent of the manager.
- We check children who are sleeping at regular intervals of at least every ten minutes. This is recorded with the times checked and the initials of the person undertaking the check.
- If children fall asleep in-situ, it may be necessary to move or wake them to make sure they are comfortable.

#### **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

This policy was adopted at a meeting of

Bow Lane Pre-school

Held on

6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 (date)

Date to be reviewed

6<sup>th</sup> September 2020 (date)

Signed on behalf of Bow Lane  
Pre-school

Name of signatory

Gaye Hooker

Role of signatory

Owner