

SAFEGUARDING & WELFARE REQUIREMENT: SAFETY & SUITABILITY OF PREMISES, ENVIRONMENT & EQUIPMENT

8.5 Fire Safety & Emergency Evacuation



Policy Statement

We ensure the highest possible standard of fire precautions are in place at our setting. The person in charge and staff are familiar with the current legal requirements. Where necessary we seek the advice of a competent person, such as the Church 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. 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'.
- Our Manager has received training in fire safety sufficient to be competent to carry out the risk assessment which is written down and follows 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
- As we rent our 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 will ensure that;

- Fire doors are clearly marked, never obstructed and easily opened from the inside.
- 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 liaise with the Church to ensure our electrical equipment is checked annually by a qualified electrician. Any faulty electrical equipment is taken out of use and either repaired or replaced.
- Any unused sockets are covered.
- 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 every six weeks.
- Records are kept of fire drills and of the servicing of fire safety equipment.

Assembly Point – Garden of Shaftesbury House – For all evacuations

Emergency evacuation procedure (in the event of fire, gas leaks, other emergency situations)

Our emergency evacuation procedures (including practice drills) address the following:

- How children are familiar with the sound of the fire alarm.
- How the children, staff and parents know where the fire exits are.
- How children are led from the building to the assembly point in the garden of Shaftesbury House.
- How children will be accounted for and who by.
- How long it takes to get the children out safely.
- Who calls the emergency services, and when, in the event of a real fire.
- How parents are contacted.

Fire drills

We hold fire drills 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 children and adults involved.
- How long it took.
- 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 at a meeting held by St John's Playtime Pre-school committee on 17th June 2009.

This policy was reviewed & updated on: March 2021

This policy will be reviewed again on: March 2022

Signed on behalf of the Management committee and provider:

Name of Signatory: Chris Coyle 

Role of Signatory: Committee Chairperson