

Health and Safety Policy

The Health and Safety of your child is very important to us and we have therefore documented the following procedures that we have in place to support this.

- All toys will be checked and cleaned regularly to ensure they are safe for your child to use. Any broken or hazardous toys will be removed immediately. Children will only be offered toys and resources that are suitable for their age/stage of development
- We do a quick risk assessment of my home every morning before the children arrive to ensure that it is a safe environment for minded children.
- It is often deemed by outside bodies that our electrical sockets around the home be fitted with plastic socket covers. **WE WILL NOT USE SOCKET COVERS**

*The BS 1363 Socket used in the United Kingdom since 1947 is manufactured with integral safety shutters to both the live and neutral pin holes. It is a highly effective means of protection against unauthorised entry of foreign objects, and associated electric shock. The chances of a child breaching the inbuilt safety mechanism are highly unlikely, indeed almost impossible. The child would need sufficient manual dexterity, and appropriate sized tools to firstly insert an object into the earth pin hole, in effect removing the internal shutters from the live and neutral holes, then at the same time as holding the object in the earth pin hole, continue to force two appropriately sized foreign object into the un-shuttered holes. We feel the use of socket covers is frankly a dangerous exercise, and as such **WE WILL NOT USE SOCKET COVERS**. We feel that the cheap plastic three pin covers available on the market are in effect an ideal tool to breach the inbuilt socket security, which also runs the risk of damaging the shutter system. Should you wish to find out more about the issues mentioned here above, please feel free to visit <http://www.fatallyflawed.org.uk/>*

- All equipment will be checked and cleaned regularly. All equipment is fitted with the correct safety harnesses to prevent accidents, for example highchair and pushchairs
- Car seats are checked regularly to ensure they are correctly fitted. . *Please note that where car seats are provided by parents, then it is the sole responsibility of the parent to ensure that the equipment is suitable in and good working order.*
- Our car is regularly serviced and MOT'd (if applicable, i.e. over three years old). We keep the safety locks on the back doors working to prevent doors being opened from the inside. Our car insurance is appropriate for transporting our children within our care.
- We use safety equipment appropriate for the children in our care. These are checked regularly.
- We will keep the front door secured with a chain to prevent the children opening the door to strangers, but to ensure a speed exit should the house need to be evacuated.
- The rear garden gates are locked at all times whilst we are in operating hours.

Policy reviewed on 20 May 2013 next review due May 2014 or sooner should legislation change.

- We have procedures in place in the event of a fire (see separate policy)
- We keep our kitchen very clean, following hygiene guidance and have been inspected by Hull City Council's Environmental Health team.
- We ensure that the children do not have access to any waste, the bins are emptied daily and any used nappies are double wrapped and placed in the outdoor rubbish bin.
- We do not permit smoking in our home (see separate policy)
- We follow strict hygiene guidelines to prevent contamination (see separate policy)
- We have strict Child protection guidelines in place (see separate policy)
- Children must stay with us when we are away from the home. Younger child will be strapped in a pushchair, older children will either be on a harness or wrist strap, or holding onto hand/pushchair.
- We have emergency contact details with us at all times should we need to contact the parents.
- We will work with you to teach the children about safety issues like crossing the road and stranger danger.
- We will work with you to teach the children about making healthy food choices and physical exercise.
- Sleeping children will be regularly monitored (either by entering the room periodically, and/or wireless CCTV).
- We discourage the children from keeping 'secrets'
- We will restrain a child if they are putting themselves or others in danger, for example running into a road (see Behavioural Policy)
- We have a first aid kit in the house and carry one with us when out of the house, we both hold a Paediatric First Aid Certificate. (see separate policy)
- Should there be a major incident this would be reported to OFSTED and Riddor.
- If you have any concerns regarding the health and safety of your child please discuss them with us.