

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

Over the Rainbow Early Learning Centre Ltd is committed to protecting the health, safety and welfare of all children, families and staff attending the service. We believe that children need a safe secure environment to explore and discover the world around them and measures need to be in place in order to safeguard their health and safety.

Principle

This policy is underpinned by:

- The Childcare Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016
- Fire Services Act 1981 & 2003
- Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act, 2005
- Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017 and the Children First Act 2015
- Building Regulations 1997 - 2006

Procedure

Playroom

- All heat emitting surfaces are protected by a fixed guard or are thermostatically controlled to ensure safe surface temperatures.
- Hot water provided for use by a pre-school child is thermostatically controlled to ensure a safe temperature.
- Steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection as per our Infection control policy, Hygiene policy and Cleaning Policy.

Entrance

- The entrance gate to the service is locked and secure at all times.
- A staff member will open the gate to allow access to the building.
- All visitors will sign-in in the guest book located inside the service.

Outdoor Play Area

- The outdoor play area is safe and secure with fencing so as to prevent a pre-school child gaining unsupervised access to a roadway or other source of danger.
- A staff member will check the outdoor area each morning to ensure there are no hazards present.
- The adult/child ratio will be maintained at all times in the outdoor area.
- Staff will be on hand to help children manage all risky play.

Outings

- We endeavour to follow our Outings policy for any and all outings outside our service.
- Our Adult:child ratios will be reduced to 1 adult per 3 children.
- Permission will be sought from all parents/ guardians before the outing date.
- A mobile phone and all appropriate record keeping will be brought on the outing including a First Aid Kit.

Fire Safety

- All firefighting equipment and detection equipment will be regularly checked and maintained.
- Fire drills will be carried out once per month keeping all appropriate records.
- The room leader is responsible for maintaining all records.
- All staff will be given fire safety training.

Risk assessments will be carried out on a regular basis both inside the playroom and in the outdoor play area.

This policy was adopted by **Over the Rainbow Early Learning Centre Ltd** on:

Date: _____

Manager

co-Manager

Review Date: _____