



Health and Safety in the Nursery Rooms

Clare House Nursery is committed to providing a safe, secure and stimulating environment for all children, staff and visitors. Daily safety checks and ongoing risk assessments are carried out to identify, reduce and manage potential hazards whilst enabling children to explore and learn safely.

The nursery will ensure that:

- Significant changes to the premises, including structural alterations or extensions, are notified to Ofsted where required.
- Where building works or maintenance are undertaken during opening hours, a suitable and sufficient risk assessment is completed. Appropriate control measures will be implemented to ensure children, staff and visitors remain safe at all times.
- Daily room checks are completed before children arrive and throughout the day, with any hazards addressed immediately.
- Doors, gates and security measures prevent children from leaving rooms unsupervised whilst still allowing safe emergency evacuation.
- Internal doors are maintained in good working order, and finger guards or other suitable protection are fitted where appropriate to reduce the risk of finger injuries.
- Furniture is appropriate for the age and stage of development of the children and is regularly checked for damage or defects.
- Chairs are stacked safely and no more than six high when not in use.
- Walkways, fire exits and access routes are kept clear at all times.
- Trailing cables, electrical leads and other trip hazards are not left accessible.
- Electrical sockets and appliances are maintained in a safe condition. Unused sockets are managed in accordance with current electrical safety guidance, and children are supervised appropriately around electrical equipment.
- Damaged equipment is removed from use immediately until repaired or replaced.
- Radiators, hot pipes and other potential heat sources are appropriately protected where there is a risk of injury.
- Windows are fitted with appropriate safety restrictors where required and are opened safely to promote good ventilation whilst ensuring children's safety.
- Indoor environments are well ventilated and maintained at a comfortable temperature.
- Floors are kept clean, dry and free from hazards. Spillages are cleaned immediately and wet floor signs used where appropriate.
- Toys, sand, water and other resources that could create slip or trip hazards are cleared away promptly.
- Storage areas are organised safely, with heavy items stored at low level where possible.
- Cleaning products, medicines, hazardous substances and sharp objects are stored securely and are inaccessible to children.
- Nappy changing areas, toilets and handwashing facilities are cleaned and disinfected regularly in accordance with the nursery's Infection Prevention and Control Policy.
- Appropriate adult supervision is maintained at all times to ensure children's safety and wellbeing.
- Age-appropriate risk assessments are completed for each room, ensuring that equipment, furniture, toys and resources are suitable, safe and regularly inspected.
- Any accidents, incidents, hazards or near misses are reported promptly and reviewed to help reduce future risks.

Staff are responsible for maintaining a safe environment by remaining vigilant, following nursery policies and procedures, and reporting any concerns immediately to the Nursery Manager or designated Health and Safety Lead.

