

Hoe Farm Childminding **Health and Safety Policy**

The Health and Safety of your child is very important to me and I have therefore documented the following procedures.

- 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
- I carry out a visual risk assessment of my home every morning before the children arrive to ensure that it is a safe environment for minded children
- All plug sockets not in use have socket covers.
- 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. This is according guidelines set out by the governments car seat regulations
- My car is regularly serviced and MOT. I keep the safety locks on the back doors working. My car insurance is for Business use.
- I use safety equipment appropriate for the children in my care, i.e. stair gates, cupboard locks etc. These are checked regularly.
- I will keep my front door locked with the keys on a hook up high to prevent the children opening the door to strangers.
- I have procedures in place in the event of a fire (see fire evacuation policy). Fire evacuation is practiced termly. Smoke Alarms are checked as part of my regular risks assessments.
- I 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.
- I do not permit smoking in my home (see no smoking policy)

I follow strict hygiene guidelines to prevent contamination. I keep my kitchen very clean, following hygiene guidelines on the storing of food, keeping the fridge at the correct temperature etc set out in the Safer Food Better Business for Childminders. I have taken a Food Safety Course and is retaken every three years.

- I have strict Child protection guidelines in place (see safeguarding children policy)

- Children must stay with me 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 my hand/pushchair. All outings are risk assessed and I seek permission from parents for regular excursions and specific permission for occasional ones. See Outings policy.
- I have emergency contact details with me at all times should I need to contact the parents.
- I will teach the children about safety issues like crossing the road and stranger danger.
- I will work with you to teach the children about making healthy food choices and physical exercise. I encourage indoor and outdoor play throughout the day.
- Sleeping children will be regularly monitored and I use a baby monitor.
- I will restrain a child if they are putting themselves or others in danger, for example running into a road.
- All pets in my care are regularly vaccinated. See Pet Policy
- Medicines are only administered with parental permission with instruction given by their GP on their medication. This is done at my discretion

If you have any concerns regarding the health and safety of your child please discuss them with me.

Other relevant documentation to this policy is

Pet Policy
 Emergency Evacuation
 Accident and Emergency
 Administering medicines
 Sickness and Infectious Diseases
 Safeguarding policy
 No smoking
 Food Hygiene and Practices – Food standards Agency
 COSHH procedures www.hse.gov.uk
 RIDDOR procedures www.hse.gov.uk
 Parent permission forms
 Outings policy
 Think car safety and ROSPA
 No Smoking Policy
 Stay Safe and Be healthy outcomes EYFS

Reviewed 13/09/11