

Health and Safety Policy



Approved by: Nazmon Hannan

Last reviewed on: May 2024

Next review due by: May 2025



Policy statement

At Jan Pre-School we believe that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We make our setting a safe and healthy place for children, parents, staff, and volunteers.

- We aim to ensure children, parents, staff, and volunteers aware of health and safety issues and to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe, secure environment.
- Nazmon Hannan is responsible for health and safety in the setting.
- She is competent to carry out these responsibilities.
- She has undertaken health and safety training and regularly updates her knowledge and understanding.
- We display the necessary health and safety poster on staff notice board.

Insurance cover

We have public liability insurance and employers' liability insurance. The certificate for public liability insurance is displayed in: **The office**

Procedures

Raising Awareness

- Our induction training for staff and volunteers includes a clear explanation of health and safety issues, so that all adults are able to adhere to our policy and procedures as they understand their shared responsibility for health and safety. The induction training covers matters of employee well-being, including safe lifting and the storage of potentially dangerous substances (cleaning product).
- We keep records of these induction training sessions and new staff and volunteers are asked to sign the records to confirm that they have taken part.
- We explain health and safety issues to the parents of new children, so that they understand the part played by these issues in the daily life of the setting.
- As necessary, health and safety trainings are included in the annual training plans of staff, and health and safety is discussed regularly at our staff meetings.
- We operate a no-smoking policy and a warning sign is on display.
- We make children aware of health and safety issues through discussions, planned activities and routines.
- We provide fresh fruits and vegetables for children and cook fresh meal in the premises.
- At dinner and snack time, we discuss the important of eating healthy food and drinking milk and water.



Windows

- We ensure that windows are protected from accidental breakage or vandalism from people outside the building.
- Our windows are secured and above the reach of children so that children cannot climb through them.
- We ensure that any blind cords are secured safely and do not pose a strangulation risk for young children.

Doors

- We take precautions to prevent children's fingers from being trapped in doors by installing finger guards on all doors. Two external doors are too big for the finger guards so one has a bolt on the floor and other has a tie back hook on the wall to prevent the doors from closing on children.

Floors and walkways

- All our floor surfaces are checked daily to ensure they are clean and not uneven, wet, or damaged. Any wet spills are mopped up immediately.
- Walkways are left clear and uncluttered.
- Stair gates are in place on both doors which lead to the hallway.

Electrical/gas equipment

- We ensure that all electrical/gas equipment conforms to safety requirements and is checked regularly.
- Our boiler and electrical meter cupboard is not accessible to the children.
- Fires, heaters, wires and leads are properly guarded, and we teach the children not to touch them.
- There are sufficient sockets in our setting to prevent overloading.
- We switch electrical devices off from the plug after use.
- We ensure that the temperature of hot water is controlled to prevent scalds.
- Lighting and ventilation are adequate in all areas of our setting, including storage areas.

Storage

- All our resources and materials, which are used by the children, are stored safely.
- Storage for any cleaning materials including the disinfective wipes are kept away from the children's reach.
- All our equipment and resources are stored or stacked safely to prevent them accidentally falling or collapsing.

Outdoor area

- Our outdoor area is securely fenced. The exit gate has an automated, magnetic closing system to close it after using and fences are childproof and safe.



- Our outdoor area is checked for safety and cleared of rubbish, animal droppings and any other unsafe items before it is used.
- Adults and children are alerted to the dangers of poisonous plants, herbicides, and pesticides.
- We leave water tray upturned to prevent collection of rainwater. Where water can form a pool on equipment, it is emptied and cleaned before children start playing outside.
- Our outdoor sand tray is covered when not in use and is cleaned regularly.
- We check that children are suitably attired for the weather conditions and type of outdoor activities; ensuring that sun cream is applied, and hats are worn during the summer months.
- We always supervise outdoor activities maintaining the higher ratio of adult; to monitor, support and teach children particularly on climbing equipment.

Hygiene

- We seek information from the Public Health England to ensure that we keep up to date with the latest recommendations.
- Our daily routines encourage the children to learn about personal hygiene.
- We have a daily cleaning routine for the setting, which includes the playrooms, kitchen, toilets, and nappy changing areas. Children do not have unsupervised access to the kitchen.
- We have a schedule for cleaning resources and equipment, dressing-up clothes, and furnishings.
- The toilet area has a high standard of hygiene, including hand washing and drying facilities.
- We implement good hygiene practices by:
 - cleaning tables between activities.
 - cleaning and checking toilets regularly.
 - wearing protective clothing - such as aprons and disposable gloves - as appropriate.
 - tissues and wipes are accessible to children all day
- We use a dishwasher to clean all our dishes and cutlery.
- Food is prepared maintaining the health and safety rules in handling food.

Activities, resources and repairs

- Before purchase or loan, we check equipment and resources to ensure that they are safe for the ages and stages of the children currently attending the setting.
- We keep a full inventory of all items in the setting for audit and insurance purposes.
- The layout of our play equipment allows adults and children to move safely and freely between activities.



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- All our equipment is regularly checked for cleanliness and safety, and any dangerous items are repaired or discarded.
- We make safe and separate from general use any areas that are unsafe because of repair is needed.
- All our materials, including paint and glue, are non-toxic.
- We ensure that sand is clean and suitable for children's play.
- Physical play is constantly supervised.
- We teach children to handle and store tools safely.
- We check children who are sleeping at regular intervals and an adult stay with them to ensure their safety.
- Any faulty equipment is removed from use and is repaired. If it cannot be repaired, it is discarded.

Jewellery and accessories

- Our staff do not wear jewellery or fashion accessories, such as belts or high heels, that may pose a danger to themselves or children.
- Parents must ensure that any jewellery worn by children poses no danger; particularly earrings which may get pulled or any stud without any cover at the back. Children can only wear stud with a closed back. Bracelets which can get caught when climbing or necklaces that may pose a risk of strangulation are not allowed.
- During summer, if any children wear sandals, they must have toes covered to avoid getting treaded on.
- We ensure that hair accessories are removed before children sleep or rest.

Safety of adults

- We ensure that adults are provided with guidance about the safe storage, movement, lifting and erection of large pieces of equipment.
- We provide safe equipment for adults to use when they need to reach up to store equipment or to change light bulbs.
- We ensure that all warning signs are clear and in appropriate languages.
- We record the sickness of staff and their involvement in accidents. The records are reviewed termly to identify any issues that need to be addressed.

Control of substances hazardous to health

- Our staff implement the current guidelines of the *Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH)*.
- We keep a record of all substances that may be hazardous to health - such as cleaning chemicals, or gardening chemicals if used and where they are stored.
- Hazardous substances are stored safely away from the children.



- We keep all cleaning chemicals in their original containers.
- We keep the chemicals used in the setting to the minimum in order to ensure health and hygiene is maintained. We do not use:
 - bleach;
 - anti-bacterial soap/hand wash, unless specifically advised during an infection outbreak such as Pandemic flu.
 - anti-bacterial cleaning agents are used in the toilets, nappy changing area, and food preparation and serving areas. Anti-bacterial spays are not used when children are nearby.
- Environmental factors are considered when purchasing, using and disposing of chemicals.
- All members of staff are vigilant and use chemicals safely.
- Members of staff wear protective gloves when using cleaning fluids.

Legal framework

- Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)
- Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992
- The Early Years Foundation Stage Framework, March 2021
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)
- Electricity at Work Regulations (1989)
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) (2002)
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations (1992 (As Amended 2004))

Further guidance

- Health and Safety Law: What You Need to Know (HSE Revised 2009)
- Health and Safety Regulation...A Short Guide (HSE 2003)
- Electrical Safety and You: A Brief Guide (HSE 2012)
- Working with Substances Hazardous to Health: What You Need to Know About COSHH (HSE Revised 2009)
- Getting to Grips with Manual Handling - Frequently Asked Questions: A Short Guide (HSE 2011)