

Health and Safety Policy

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

- I have undertaken a risk assessment of my the areas of my home I use for childminding. I review this assessment periodically to account for changes in children's development. I also review the risk assessment prior to any significant planned change or immediately after any unplanned change.
- I undertake separate risk assessments for any venue we regularly visit (eg Childminding group) and generic risk assessments for generic activities such as outdoor trips.
- All toys are 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 do a risk assessment of my home every day before the children arrive to ensure that it is a safe environment for minded children
- 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.
- 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 clean my kitchen daily and follow hygiene guidelines on the storing of food, keeping the fridge at the correct temperature etc.
- I do not permit smoking in my home
- I follow strict hygiene guidelines to prevent contamination
- I have strict Child protection guidelines in place (see separate policy)
- I have emergency contact details with me at all times should I need to contact the parents.
- I will work with you to 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.
- Sleeping children will be regularly monitored.
- I discourage the children from keeping 'secrets'.
- I will restrain a child if they are putting themselves or others in danger, for example running into a road.
- I have a procedure in the event of a fire and test my smoke detectors regularly
- I keep current my certificate in paediatric first aid, have a fully stocked first aid kit in the house and take a small first aid kit with me whenever I leave the house.