

## 8.5 Fire safety and emergency evacuation



### Policy statement

Explorers ensure the highest possible standard of fire precautions are in place. The person in charge and our staff are familiar with the current legal requirements. Where necessary we seek the advice of a competent person, such as our Fire Officer or Fire Safety Consultant. A Fire Safety Log Book is used to record the findings of risk assessment, any actions taken or incidents that have occurred and our fire drills. We ensure our policy is in line with the procedures specific to our building, making reasonable adjustments as required.

### Procedures

#### *Fire safety risk assessment*

- The basis of fire safety is risk assessment, carried out by a 'competent person'.
- The manager has received training in fire safety sufficient to be competent to carry out the risk assessment; this will be written to follow the Government guidance Fire Safety Risk Assessment - Educational Premises (HMG 2006).
  - Our fire safety risk assessment focuses on the following for each area of the our settings:
  - Electrical plugs, wires and sockets.
  - Electrical items.
  - Gas boilers.
  - Cookers.
  - Matches.
  - Flammable materials – including furniture, furnishings, paper etc.
  - Flammable chemicals.
  - Means of escape.
  - Anything else identified.
- As we rent our premises, we will ensure that we have a copy of the fire safety risk assessment that applies to the buildings and that we contribute to regular reviews.

#### *Fire safety precautions taken*

- We ensure that fire doors are clearly marked, never obstructed and easily opened from the inside.
- We ensure that smoke detectors/alarms and fire fighting appliances conform to BS EN standards, are fitted in appropriate high risk areas of the building and are checked as specified by the manufacturer.
- We have all electrical equipment checked annually by a qualified electrician. Any faulty electrical equipment is taken out of use and either repaired or replaced.
- Our emergency evacuation procedures are approved by the Fire Safety Officer and are:
  - clearly displayed in the premises;

- explained to new members of staff, volunteers and parents; and
- practised regularly, at least once every term.
- Records are kept of fire drills and of the servicing of fire safety equipment.

#### *Emergency evacuation procedure*

- Through regular fire drill practise the children will be aware of the sound of the fire alarm.
- On hearing the fire alarm staff will be responsible for their key children, room leaders will ensure that all children in their room are accounted for.
- Mobile children will be led calmly out of the building, non-mobile children will be taken out of the building in evacuation trolley to the assembly point.
- The manager will bring the daily register, contact numbers and mobile phone. The manager will call the emergency services
- The manager will check all adults, students and children are present.
- Parents will be contacted

#### *Fire drills*

We hold fire drills termly and record the following information about each fire drill in the Fire Safety Log Book:

- The date and time of the drill.
- Number of adults and children involved.
- How long it took to evacuate.
- Whether there were any problems that delayed evacuation.
- Any further action taken to improve the drill procedure.

#### **Legal framework**

- Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

#### **Further guidance**

- Fire Safety Risk Assessment - Educational Premises (HMG 2006)

#### **Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Safety and Suitability of Premises, Environment and Equipment**

Providers must take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises in the case of fire or any other emergency, and must have an emergency evacuation procedure.