

Albany Montessori School Suitable Premises, Environment and equipment - Health and safety

HEALTH AND SAFETY GENERAL STANDARDS

Policy statement

This setting believes 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 make children, parents and staff aware of health and safety issues and to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment.
- Our member of staff responsible for health and safety is:
Tim Hodgson
- He is competent to carry out these responsibilities.
- We display the necessary health and safety poster in
The Classroom

Insurance cover

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

The Classroom

EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.3 Keeping safe 1.4 Health and well-being		3.3 The learning environment	

Procedures

Awareness raising

- 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.
- As necessary, health and safety training is given and health and safety is discussed regularly at staff meetings.
- We operate a no smoking policy.
- Children are made aware of health and safety issues through discussions, planned activities and routines.

Safety of adults

- All warning signs are clear and in appropriate languages.
- The sickness of staff and their involvement in accidents is recorded. The records are reviewed termly to identify any issues that need to be addressed.
- We keep all cleaning chemicals in their original containers.

Windows

- All windows are out of the reach of children and so pose no hazard.

Doors

- We take precautions to prevent children's fingers from being trapped in doors.

Floors

- All floor surfaces are checked daily to ensure they are clean and not uneven, wet or damaged.

Electrical/gas equipment

- All electrical/gas equipment conforms to safety requirements and is checked regularly either by us or by Hatfield Road Methodist Church.

Storage

- All resources and materials from which children select are stored safely.
- All equipment and resources are stored or stacked safely to prevent them accidentally falling or collapsing.

Hygiene

- We regularly seek information from the Environmental Health Department and the Health Authority to ensure that we keep up-to-date with the latest recommendations.
- Our daily routines encourage the children to learn about personal hygiene.
- Tables and surfaces in the nursery are regularly cleaned.
- Resources and equipment, dressing-up clothes and furnishings are cleaned on a regular basis.
- The toilet area includes hand washing and drying facilities and the disposal of nappies.
- We implement good hygiene practices by:
 - cleaning tables between activities;
 - ensuring toilets are cleaned regularly by the church.
 - wearing protective clothing - such as aprons and disposable gloves - as appropriate;
 - providing sets of clean clothes; and
 - providing tissues and wipes;

Activities and resources

- Before purchase or loan, equipment and resources are checked to ensure that they are safe for the ages and stages of the children currently attending the setting.

- The layout of play equipment allows adults and children to move safely and freely between activities.
- All equipment is regularly checked for cleanliness and safety and any dangerous items are repaired or discarded.
- All materials, including paint and glue, are non-toxic.
- Sand is clean and suitable for children's play.
- Physical play is constantly supervised.
- Children are taught to handle and store tools safely e.g. scissors.
- Children learn about health, safety and personal hygiene through the activities we provide and the routines we follow.
- Any faulty equipment is removed from use and is repaired. If it cannot be repaired it is discarded.

Legal Framework

- Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992
- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations(COSHH) (2002)
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (as amended)
- Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992

Further guidance

- *Health and Safety Law: What you Should Know (HSE 1999)*
www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/law.pdf
- *Health and Safety Regulation...a Short Guide (HSE 2003)*
www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsc13.pdf
- *Electrical Safety and You (HSE 1998)*
www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg231.pdf
- *COSHH: A Brief Guide to the Regulations (HSE 2005)*
www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg136.pdf
- *Manual Handling - Frequently Asked Questions (HSE)*
www.hse.gov.uk/contact/faqs/manualhandling.htm