

General Welfare Requirement: Suitable premises, environment and equipment
Outdoor and indoor spaces, furniture and toys must be safe and suitable for their purpose.

General Welfare Requirement: Safeguarding and Promoting Children’s Welfare
The provider must take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Health and Hygiene Policy

Policy statement

Our pre-school operates a no smoking policy. It promotes a healthy lifestyle and a high standard of hygiene in its day-to-day work with children and adults. This is achieved in the following ways.

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	2.1 Respecting each other 2.2 Parents as partners 2.4 Key person	3.4 The wider context	

Procedures

Food

- All meals and snacks provided will be nutritious and pay due attention to children’s particular dietary requirements.
- When cooking with children as an activity, the adults will provide healthy, wholesome food, promoting and extending the children's understanding of a healthy diet.

Illness

- Parents/carers are asked to keep their child at home if they have any infection, and to inform the pre-school as to the nature of the infection so that the pre-school can alert other parents/carers, and make careful observations of any child who seems unwell.
- Parents/carers are asked not to bring into the pre-school any child who has been vomiting or had diarrhoea until at least 48 hours has elapsed since the last attack.

- Parents/carers are asked to let pre-school know if their child contracts a notifiable disease.
- Ofsted will be notified of any food poisoning affecting 2 or more children looked after on the premises, any child having meningitis, or the outbreak of any notifiable disease. (See Public Health Infectious Diseases Regulations 1988.)
- The pre-school will ensure that the first aid equipment is kept clean, replenished and replaced as necessary. Sterile items will be kept sealed in their packages until needed.

Information sources

- Parents/carers will have the opportunity to discuss health issues with pre-school staff and will have access to information available to the pre-school.
- The pre-school will maintain links with health visitors and gather health information and advice from the local health authority, information services and/or other health agencies.

Sun Protection

During the summer/warmer weather/months it is essential that the children have sun protective cream on and a sun hat to wear when going outside (Crossbow has free flow play to our garden throughout the session and we regularly visit our nearby field.)

It is the policy of Crossbow Pre-school to advise parents/carers that staff will not apply sun protective cream or supply hats to children in their care. Parents/carers must apply cream before the children come to pre-school and send a named hat, which may be kept at pre-school if they wish.

Please note: pre-school staff are not allowed to administer sun cream to your child.

If the weather is slightly cold or windy, please provide your child with a cardigan, sweater or similar to wear outside.

Jewellery

For safety reasons, children will be discouraged from wearing jewellery to pre-school. Children may be asked to remove jewellery that is considered unsafe.

Hygiene

To prevent the spread of all infection, adults in the group will ensure the following good practices are observed:

Personal Hygiene

- Hands washed after using the toilet.
- Children with pierced ears not allowed trying on or sharing each other's earrings.
- Tissues will be available and children encouraged to blow and wipe their noses when necessary. Soiled tissues disposed of hygienically.
- Hygiene rules related to bodily fluids followed with particular care and all staff and volunteers aware of how infections including HIV infection, can be transmitted.
- Children encouraged to shield their mouths when coughing.
- Individual towels available, or paper towels used and disposed of appropriately.

Food

The pre-school will observe current legislation regarding food hygiene, registration and training. In particular, each adult will:

- Ensure waste is disposed of properly and out of reach of the children. Keep a lid on the dustbin and wash hands after using it.
- Always wash hands under running water before handling food and after using the toilet.
- Not be involved with the preparation of food if suffering from any infectious/contagious illness or skin trouble.
- Wash fresh fruits and vegetables thoroughly before use.
- Keep all utensils clean and stored in a dust-free place, e.g. closed cupboard or drawer.
- Never cough or sneeze over food.
- Never use cracked or chipped china.
- Use different cleaning cloths for kitchen and toilet areas.

Cleaning and clearing

- Any spills of blood, vomit or excrement should be wiped up and flushed away down the toilet. Disposable gloves always to be used when cleaning up spills of bodily fluids. Floors and other affected areas disinfected using chlorine or iodine bleach diluted according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Spare laundered pants, and other clothing, are available in case of accidents and polythene bags available in which to wrap soiled garments.
- All surfaces cleaned daily with an appropriate cleaner.

Staff Health and Safety

Staff should:

Be aware of how to move/carry heavy items/equipment. Not to be handled alone. Abide by handling and lifting procedures discussed regularly at staff meetings.

Using steps rather than the chairs when reaching for equipment or when opening windows.

Legal framework

- Children Act (1989 s47)
- Protection of Children Act (1999)
- The Children Act (Every Child Matters) (2004)
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act (2006)
- Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR 1995)

Further guidance

- Can be found at www.legislation.gov.uk, or www.hse.gov.uk, or other government websites.