

# Safety Checks

EYFS: 3.54, 3.64, 3.65

At Wirral Montessori, we make sure the nursery is a safe environment for children, parents, staff and visitors by carrying out safety checks on a regular basis in accordance with the timescales set out in the nursery checklists. These include daily checks of the premises, indoors and outdoors, and all equipment and resources before the children access any of the areas. The checks are recorded to show any issues and solutions.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the fire safety, risk assessments, visits and outings and the equipment and resources policies.

All staff should be aware of potential hazards in the nursery environment and monitor safety at all times.

## **Risk assessments**

Risk assessments document the hazard, who could be harmed, existing controls, the seriousness of the risk/injury, any further action needed to control the risk, who is responsible for what action, when/how often will the action be undertaken, and how will this be monitored and checked and by whom.

The nursery carries out written risk assessments at least annually. These are regularly reviewed and cover potential risks to children, staff and visitors at the setting. When circumstances change in the nursery, e.g. a significant piece of equipment is introduced; we review our current risk assessment or conduct a new risk assessment dependent on the nature of this change.

All staff are trained in the risk assessment process to ensure understanding and compliance.

All outings away from the nursery are individually risk assessed. For more details refer to the visits and outings policy.

## **Hints and tips**

Please refer to the Health and Safety Executive's 'Five Steps to Risk Assessment' located in our risk assessment folder in the nursery's office for further support with the risk assessment process. The Five Steps to Risk Assessment publication and risk assessment templates can be downloaded from the Health and Safety Executive's website at [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)

## **Electrical equipment**

Who checks	How often	Location/Tel. no.

- All electrical cables are kept out of the reach of children wherever possible and shielded by furniture where they need to be at floor level
- Electrical sockets are all risk assessed and any appropriate safety measures are in place to ensure the safety of the children.

### **Mains information**

Locations of:

- Water stop tap: outside the property (Alfred Road)
- Gas point: exterior hallway
- Fuse box: main nursery room and upstairs in maisonette
- Main electricity box: main nursery room

### **Dangerous substances**

All dangerous substances including chemicals MUST be kept in locked areas out of children's reach. All substances must be kept in their original containers with their original labels attached. Safety Data Sheets (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)) and risk assessments must be kept for all substances and the appropriate personal protection taken and used e.g. gloves, apron and goggles.

### **Hot drinks and food**

Hot drinks must only be consumed in the staff room.

### **Transport and outings**

The nursery has a comprehensive documented policy relating to outings, which incorporates all aspects of health and safety procedures including the arrangements for transporting and the supervision of children when away from the setting.

### **Room temperatures**

- Staff should be aware of room temperatures in the nursery and should ensure that they are suitable at all times.
- Temperatures should not fall below 16°C in all areas
- Where fans are being used to cool rooms, great care must be taken with regard to their positioning.

### **Water supplies**

- A fresh drinking supply is available and accessible to all children, staff and visitors
- All hot water taps accessible to children are thermostatically controlled to ensure that the temperature of the water does not exceed 40°C.

### **Gas appliances**

- All gas appliances are checked annually by a registered Gas Safety Register engineer
- Carbon monoxide detectors are fitted.

The checklists used in the nursery include:

Checklists	Who checks	How often
Carbon Monoxide detectors	Manager	Termly
Gas appliances (boiler)	British Gas	Yearly, unless needed sooner
Water Temperature	Manager	Daily

**This policy is reviewed on an annual basis in consultation with staff.**