



## **RAINBOW PRE-SCHOOL**

Established 1979

Registered Charity No: 1026005

### **BAPTIST CHURCH HALL**

2 Dukes Avenue, Muswell Hill, London N10 2PT

Telephone 020 8883 4010

## **Accidents & First Aid Policy**

### **Policy statement**

At Rainbow Preschool, the safety of all children is paramount and we have measures in place to help to protect children. However, sometimes accidents do unavoidably happen.

We follow this policy to ensure all parties are supported and cared for when accidents or incidents happen and that the circumstances of the accident or incident are reviewed with a view to minimising any future risks.

### **Accidents or incidents**

When an accident or incident occurs, we ensure:

- The child is comforted and reassured first.
- The extent of the injury is assessed and if necessary, a call is made for medical support or an ambulance.
- First aid procedures are carried out where necessary, by a trained paediatric first aider.
- The person responsible for reporting accidents, incidents or near misses is the member of staff who saw the incident or was first to find the child where there are no witnesses.
- The accident or incident is recorded in the accident book/incident form and it is reported to the preschool manager. Other staff who have witnessed the accident may also countersign the form and, in more serious cases, provide a statement. This should be done as soon as the accident is dealt with, whilst the details are still clearly remembered.
- Parents are shown the accident book/incident form and informed of any first aid treatment given. They are asked to sign it the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable after.
- The preschool manager reviews the accident book/incident forms at least termly for patterns e.g., one child having a repeated number of accidents, a particular area in the preschool or a particular time of the day when most accidents happen. Any patterns are investigated by the preschool manager and all necessary steps to reduce risks are put in place.
- The preschool manager reports any serious accidents or incidents to the registered person for investigation or further action to be taken (i.e., a full risk assessment or report under Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)).
- The accident/ incident records are kept for at least 22 years.
- Where medical attention is required, a senior member of staff will notify the parent(s) as soon as possible whilst caring for the child appropriately.

- Where medical treatment is required, the preschool manager will follow the insurance company procedures, which may involve informing them in writing of the accident.
- The preschool manager or registered provider will report any accidents of a serious nature to Ofsted and the local authority children's social care team (as the local child protection agency), where necessary. Where relevant, such accidents will also be reported to the local authority environmental health department or the Health and Safety Executive and their advice followed.
- Accident records are kept securely in a locked cabinet in the office.
- Accident and incident records will be regularly reviewed to identify if there are trends or common features that could be addressed to reduce the risks of accidents and incidents in the setting. Appropriate action will be taken to address any identified concerns.

#### Contact Details:

| Organisation                    | Phone         | Email                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ofsted                          | 0300 123 1231 | <a href="mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk">enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk</a>                                                                                                |
| MASH (Haringey)                 | 0208 489 4470 | <a href="mailto:mashreferral@haringey.gcsx.gov.uk">mashreferral@haringey.gcsx.gov.uk</a>                                                                            |
| Haringey Environmental Services | 0208 489 1000 |                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Health and Safety Executive     | 0300 003 1647 | <a href="https://www.hse.gov.uk/contact/tell-us-about-a-health-and-safety-issue.htm">https://www.hse.gov.uk/contact/tell-us-about-a-health-and-safety-issue.htm</a> |
| RIDDOR report form              | -             | <a href="http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm">http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm</a>                                                                       |

#### Head injuries

If a child receives a head injury while in the setting then we will follow this procedure:

- Comfort, calm and reassure the child
- Assess the child's condition to ascertain if a hospital or ambulance is required. We will follow our procedures if this is required (see below).
- If the skin is not broken, we will administer a cold compress for short periods of time, repeated until the parent arrives to collect their child.
- If the skin is broken then we will follow our first aid training and stem the bleeding.
- Call the parent and make them aware of the injury and if they need to collect their child.
- Complete the accident book.
- Keep the child in a calm and quiet area whilst awaiting collection, where applicable.
- We will continue to monitor the child and follow the advice on the NHS website as per all head injuries <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/minor-head-injury/>
- For major head injuries we will follow our paediatric first aid training.

#### Choking

When a child experiences a choking incident that requires intervention, we will;

- Record details of where and how the child choked
- Make parents aware of the incident.

## **Transporting children to hospital procedure**

The preschool manager or staff member must:

- Call for an ambulance immediately if the injury is severe. We will not attempt to transport the injured child in our own vehicles.
- Whilst waiting for the ambulance, contact the parents and arrange to meet them at the hospital.
- Arrange for the most appropriate member of staff to accompany the child, taking with them any relevant information such as registration forms, relevant medication sheets, medication and the child's comforter.
- Redeploy staff if necessary to ensure there is adequate staff deployment to care for the remaining children. This may mean temporarily grouping the children together.
- Inform a member of the management committee immediately.
- Remain calm at all times. Children who witness an incident may well be affected by it and may need lots of cuddles and reassurance. Staff may also require additional support following the accident.

## **First aid**

The first aid box is located in the filing cabinet in the main hall, out of the reach of children. It is accessible to staff at all times and contains appropriate supplies for use on children and adults.

The appointed persons check the contents of the first aid box at the end of each month and replace items that have been used or are out of date.

First aid boxes should only contain items permitted by the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations Act 1981, such as sterile dressings, bandages and eye pads. No other medical items, such as paracetamol should be kept in them.

The appointed persons responsible for first aid are: **Isabel & Gina**

All staff are trained in paediatric first aid and this training is updated every three years.

We ensure there is at least one person who holds a current full (12 hour) paediatric first aid (PFA) certificate on the premises and available at all times when children are present.

When children are taken on an outing away from our preschool, we will always ensure they are accompanied by at least one member of staff who holds a current full (12 hour) PFA certificate. A first aid box is taken on all outings, along with any medication that needs to be administered in an emergency, including inhalers etc.

## **Food safety and play**

Children are supervised during mealtimes and food is adequately cut up to reduce the risk of choking. The use of food as a play material is discouraged. However, as we understand that learning experiences are provided through exploring different malleable materials the following may be used:

- Playdough

- Cornflour
- Dried pasta, rice and pulses.
- Jelly

These are risk assessed and presented differently to the way it would be presented for eating e.g., in tuff trays. Food items may also be incorporated into the role play area to enrich the learning experiences for children e.g., fruits and vegetables. Children will be fully supervised during these activities.

### **Personal protective equipment (PPE)**

The preschool provides staff with PPE according to the need of the task or activity. Staff must wear PPE to protect themselves and the children during tasks that involve contact with bodily fluids. PPE is also provided for domestic tasks. Staff are consulted when procuring PPE to ensure all allergies and individual needs are supported and this is evaluated on an ongoing basis.

### **Dealing with blood**

We may not be aware that any child attending the preschool has a condition that may be transmitted via blood. Any staff member dealing with blood must:

- Always take precautions when cleaning wounds as some conditions such as hepatitis or the HIV virus can be transmitted via blood.
- Wear disposable gloves and wipe up any blood spillage with disposable cloths, neat sterilising fluid or freshly diluted bleach (one part diluted with 10 parts water). Such solutions must be carefully disposed of immediately after use.

### **Needle punctures and sharps injury**

We recognise that injuries from needles, broken glass and so on may result in blood-borne infections and that staff must take great care in the collection and disposal of this type of material. For the safety and well-being of the employees, any staff member dealing with needles, broken glass etc. must treat them as contaminated waste.

We treat our responsibilities and obligations in respect of health and safety as a priority and provide ongoing training to all members of staff which reflects best practice and is in line with current health and safety legislation.

This policy is updated at least annually in consultation with staff and parents and/or after a serious accident or incident.

### **Legal framework**

Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations (1981)