

Risk Assessment Policy



HOPS uses its risk assessment systems to ensure that HOPS is a safe and secure place for children and staff. All staff are expected to undertake risk assessments as part of their routine tasks.

In line with current health and safety legislation and the *EYFS Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements 2014*, HOPS will carry out regular risk assessments and take appropriate action to deal with any hazards or risks identified. It is the responsibility of the Team Leader to ensure that risk assessments are conducted, monitored and acted upon.

Risk assessments will be carried out:

- whenever there is any change to equipment or resources
- when there is any change to HOPS's premises
- when the particular needs of a child necessitates this
- when we take the children on an outing or visit.

Not all risk assessments need to be written down. Staff will decide, in consultation with the Team Leader, which risk assessments need to be formally recorded. However risk assessments related to employment and the working environment will be always be recorded in writing so that staff can refer to them. If changes are required to HOPS's policies or procedures as a result of the risk assessment, the Team Leader will update the relevant documents and inform all staff.

Daily checks

We will carry out a visual inspection of the equipment and the whole premises (indoors and out) daily, before any children arrive. During the course of the session, staff will remain alert to any potential risks to health and safety.

If a member of staff discovers a hazard during the course of a session, they will make the area safe (e.g. by cordoning it off) and then notify the Team Leader. The Team Leader will ensure that any actions needed to mitigate the immediate hazard have been taken and will implement measures to prevent the incident from recurring.

Recording accidents and dangerous events

The Team Leader will record all accidents and dangerous events on the **Incident or Accident Record** sheets as soon as possible after the incident. If the incident affected a child the record will be kept on the child's file. HOPS will monitor **Incident and Accident Records** to see whether any pattern to the occurrences can be identified.

Related policies

See our related policies: **Fire Safety and Risk Assessment**, **Health and Safety**, and **Manual Handling**.

This policy was adopted by: HOPS	Date: March 2018
To be reviewed: Annually	Signed: 