

01 Health and safety procedures

01.20 Notifiable incident, non- child protection

Staff respond swiftly, appropriately and effectively in the case of an incident within the setting. Notifiable incidents in this procedure are those not involving child protection.

A 'notifiable' incident' could include:

- fire or suspected arson
- electric or Gas fault
- burst pipe, severe leak or flooding
- severe weather that has caused an incident or damage to property
- break-in with vandalism or theft
- staff, parent, carer or visitor mugged or assaulted on site or in vicinity on the way to or from the setting
- outbreak of a notifiable disease
- staff or parent threatened/assaulted on the premises by a parent or visitor
- accidents due to any other faults (that are reportable under RIDDOR)
- lost child
- any event or information that becomes known, that may have implications for the setting or the wider organisation in the future use

The designated health and safety officer or another named person:

- has all emergency services numbers immediately to hand
- has a list of contacts for maintenance and repair
- ensure that members of staff know what to do in an emergency
- risk assess the situation and decides, with the owners/trustees/directors, if the premises are safe to receive children before any children arrive or to offer a limited service

Emergency evacuation

In most instances, children will not be evacuated from the premises unless there is an immediate risk or unless they are advised to do so by the emergency services.

- There is an emergency evacuation procedure in place which is unique to the setting and based upon risk assessment in line with others using the building.
- Emergency evacuation procedures are practised regularly and are reviewed according to risk assessment (as above).

- Staff evacuate children to a pre-designated area (as per the fire drill), unless advised by the emergency services that the designated area is not suitable at that time.
- Once evacuated, nobody enters the premises, until the emergency services say so.
- Members of staff will always act upon the advice of the emergency services.

Emergency Drills

- Emergency Drills (to include emergency evacuation procedures and lock down) are held at least termly.
- Drills are recorded, including:
 - Date of drill
 - Staff involved and number of children
 - How long it took to evacuate
 - Any reason for a delay in achieving the target time and how it will be remedied

Supervisor to blow whistle and calmly tell children the action to be taken:

o Listen: There is a fire

o Stop all play

o We are leaving the building and to stand quietly at the assembly point

- Assistants to evacuate children from the building in a calm, quick and orderly manner, and assemble at the assembly point (front gate and carry out headcount)
- Parent/students on duty to assist in the evacuation.
- Supervisor undertakes 'sweep' of the rooms, collects registers and makes way out of the building to the assembly point.
- Supervisor does a roll call to ensure all staff/helpers are accounted for.
- In no circumstance does anyone re-enter the building until the fire drill is finished.
- The length of time from start to finish of the drill is to be noted.
- The time and date of the fire drill shall be recorded in the fire drill book, together with any relevant comments and improvements.

1. Emergency Evacuation Procedure

1. The emergency evacuation procedure shall be enforced upon:
 - **Automatic activation of the alarm system**
 - **Visual identification of fire or smoke**
 - **Smell of burning**
 - **Other major incident**
2. The emergency drill procedure shall be actioned (if the automatic system has not activated the person nearest a call point shall activate the alarm).
3. The assembly point shall be the car park off St Andrews flats (100yds up the road)
4. The supervisor shall ring 999 and follow advice given by the Emergency Services.
5. Deal with first response until emergency services arrive
6. If necessary, contact parents/carers to collect children, attend hospital etc
7. At all times re-assure the children and keep calm.
8. If at drop off or collection time parents /carers will also be escorted from the

building. Children's names are recorded on entering the building before the registration is taken.

Common sense must be used if this procedure is not possible or is dangerous. The safety of the children is paramount.

Emergency Closure

The circumstances under which the setting may be closed due to an incident include:

- The owners/directors/trustees make the decision to close – thereby withdrawing the service.
- A third party makes the decision to close for example:
 - a school, where the setting is on a school site
 - the children's centre (if on a children's centre site)
 - the emergency services
- A parent/carer makes the decision for their child not to attend.
 - If a parent/carer makes the decision for their child not to attend due to a critical incident, the child's fees are due as normal.
 - Further consideration of individual incidences must be done in consultation with the owners/trustees/directors.

Recording and reporting

- On discovery of the notifiable incident, the member of staff reports to the appropriate emergency service, fire, police, ambulance, if those services are needed.
- The member of staff ensures that the setting manager and/or deputy are informed (if not on the premises at the time) and that the owners/trustees/directors are informed.
- The setting manager completes and sends an incident record to the owners/trustees/directors, who, according to the severity of the incident notifies Ofsted, the childminder agency, and/or RIDDOR.
- If the incident indicates that a crime may have been committed, all staff witness to the incident should make a written statement.
- Staff do not discuss the incident with the press.

RIDDOR reportable events include:

- Specified injuries at work, as detailed at www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg453.pdf
- Fatal accidents to staff, children, and visitors (parents/carers).
- Accidents resulting in the incapacitation of staff for more than seven days.
- Injuries to members of the public, including parents/carers' and children, where they are taken to hospital.
- Dangerous 'specified' occurrences, where no-one is injured but they could have been. (these are usually industrial incidents).

This may include:

- a member of staff injures back at work through lifting and is off for two weeks
- a parent/carer slips on a wet floor near the water tray and is taken to hospital

- a child falls from a climbing frame and is taken to hospital
- the ceiling collapses
- an outbreak of Legionella

The setting manager informs the owners/trustees/directors and completes an accident and/or incident record; witness statements are taken as previously detailed.

- If the incident is RIDDOR reportable, the setting manager telephones HSE Contact Centre on 0345 300 9923 or reports online at www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm
- RIDDOR Reportable events require reporting to RIDDOR within 15 days of the event occurring.

The local authority investigates all reported injuries, diseases, or dangerous occurrences. They will decide if there has been a breach in health and safety regulations and will decide what measures will be taken.

The owners/trustees/directors review how the situation was managed, as above, to ensure that investigations were rigorous, and that policies and procedures were followed.

If an insurance claim is likely:

- Incidents such as fire, theft or flood are notified to the insurance provider immediately.
- The setting does not admit liability.
- If broken or faulty equipment is involved, it must not be repaired, destroyed, or disposed of, in case it is needed during the investigation.
- If communication from a solicitor is received on behalf of the injured party, this is sent directly to the insurance provider; the setting manager will then write to the solicitor to confirm that the letter has been passed on.
- The incident is not discussed with any outside persons, or other parents/carers, no matter what questions they may ask about their own child's safety in relation to the incident, as it is regarded as confidential under the Data Protection Act.