

MISS DELANEY'S

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Safety and Suitability of Premises, Environment & Equipment

Miss Delaney's will take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises.

Health

Miss Delaney's will promote the good health of children attending the setting.

8.1 Health and Safety General Standards

Policy statement

Miss Delaney's believes that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We make our setting a safe and healthy place for children, parents, staff and volunteers.

Miss Delaney's Nursery Schools Ltd aims to make children, parents, staff and volunteers aware of health and safety issues and to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment. **The Head Teacher is required to complete a full Risk Assessment every year and this is reviewed on a regular basis. A copy of the Risk Assessment is kept in the Nursery's Operational File and forms part of our Staff Training programme.**

Our members of staff responsible for health and safety are: Frances Delaney (Principal) and Lisa Murray (Head Teacher).

- He/she is competent to carry out these responsibilities.
- He/she has undertaken health and safety training and regularly updates his/her knowledge and understanding.
- We operate a strict non-smoking policy within the Nursery.
- We hold a full Risk Assessment on our premises and this should be monitored and reviewed by the Head Teacher.
- Staff must attend any induction and update and complete any required training programme if necessary.
- All staff members must make themselves familiar with the Health and Safety Executive Information poster in the school kitchen. This provides key focal point information regarding Health and Safety issues while in the work place.

Insurance cover

We have public liability insurance and employers' liability insurance. The certificate for public liability insurance is displayed in the Reception Office.

Procedures

Awareness Raising

Miss Delaney's Nursery Schools Ltd induction training for staff includes a clear explanation of health and safety issues, so that all adults are able to adhere to our policy and procedures as they understand their shared responsibility for health and safety. The induction training covers matters of employee well-being, including manual handling and the storage of cleaning sprays.

Records are kept of these induction training sessions and new staff and volunteers are asked to sign the records to confirm that they have taken part.

Health and safety issues are explained to the parents of new children, so that they understand the part played by these issues in the daily life of the setting.

As necessary, health and safety training is included in the annual training plans of staff, and health and safety is discussed regularly at staff meetings.

Miss Delaney's Nursery Schools Ltd operates a no-smoking policy.

Children are made aware of health and safety issues through discussions, planned activities and routines.

Safety of adults

- Adults are provided with guidance about the safe storage, movement, lifting and erection of large pieces of equipment.
- When adults need to reach up to store equipment, they are provided with safe equipment to do so. Step ladders are located in the kitchen.
- All warning signs are clear and in appropriate languages.
- Adults do not remain in the building on their own or leave on their own after dark.
- The sickness of staff and their involvement in accidents is recorded. The records are reviewed termly to identify any issues that need to be addressed.
- Miss Delaney's Nursery Schools Ltd keeps a record of all substances that may be hazardous to health - such as cleaning chemicals, or gardening chemicals if used. This states what the risks are and what to do if they have contact with eyes or skin or are ingested. It also states where they are stored. This file can be located next to the fridge in the kitchen.
- We keep all cleaning chemicals in their original containers.

Windows

- Low level windows are made from materials that prevent accidental breakage or are made safe.
- Windows are protected from accidental breakage or vandalism from people outside the building.
- Windows above the ground floor are secured so that children cannot climb through them.

Doors

- Miss Delaney's Nursery Schools Ltd takes precautions to prevent children's fingers from being trapped in doors. Door stops are in place and finger guards are fitted.

Floors

- All floor surfaces are checked daily to ensure they are clean and not uneven, wet or damaged.

Electrical/gas equipment

- All electrical/gas equipment conforms to safety requirements and is checked regularly.
- Our boiler/electrical switch gear/meter cupboard is not accessible to the children.
- Fires, heaters, electric sockets, wires and leads are properly guarded or out of reach and the children are taught not to touch them.
- There are sufficient sockets to prevent overloading.
- The temperature of hot water is controlled to prevent scalds.
- Lighting and ventilation are adequate in all areas including storage areas.

Storage

- All resources and materials, which are used by the children, are stored safely.
- All equipment and resources are stored or stacked safely to prevent them accidentally falling or collapsing.

Outdoor Area: Nursery Garden

- Our outdoor area is securely fenced with lockable gates which operate by a key system.
- Our outdoor area is checked for safety and cleared of rubbish before it is used.
- Adults and children are alerted to the dangers of poisonous plants, herbicides and pesticides.

- Our outdoor sand pit/water play is supervised AT ALL TIMES and is covered when not in use (between sessions) and is cleaned regularly (sand) and/or each session (water).
- All outdoor activities are supervised by adults at all times and we operate a good child/adult ratio at all times when outside.

Hygiene

- Our daily routines encourage the children to learn about personal hygiene.
- We have a daily cleaning routine for the setting, which includes the play room(s), kitchen, rest area, toilets and nappy changing areas.
- We have a schedule for cleaning resources and equipment, dressing-up clothes and furnishings.
- The toilet area has a high standard of hygiene, including hand washing and drying facilities and disposal facilities for nappies.
- We implement good hygiene practices by:
 - cleaning tables between activities;
 - cleaning and checking toilets regularly;
 - wearing protective clothing - such as aprons and disposable gloves - as appropriate;
 - providing sets of clean clothes;
 - providing tissues and wipes; and
 - ensuring individual use of flannels, paper hand towels.

Activities and resources

- Before purchase or loan, equipment and resources are checked to ensure that they are safe for the ages and stages of the children currently attending the setting.
- The layout of play equipment allows adults and children to move safely and freely between activities.
- All equipment is regularly checked for cleanliness and safety, and any dangerous items are repaired or discarded.
- All materials, including paint and glue, are non-toxic.
- Sand is clean and suitable for children's play.
- Physical play is constantly supervised.
- Children are taught to handle and store tools safely.
- Children who are sleeping are checked regularly.

- Children learn about health, safety and personal hygiene through the activities we provide and the routines we follow.
- Any faulty equipment is removed from use and is repaired. If it cannot be repaired, it is discarded.
- Large pieces of equipment are discarded only with the consent of the Head Teacher and the management team.

Asbestos

- The school has no asbestos present in the building.

Legionella

- The school has no cold water storage tanks. All cold water is mains fed. Hot water is fed from a combi boiler and heated as needed.

Legal Framework

- Health and Safety at Work Act (1974)
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)
- Electricity at Work Regulations (1989)
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) (2002)
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations (1992 (As Amended 2004))
- Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations (1992)

Further Guidance

- Health and Safety Law: What You Need to Know (HSE Revised 2009)
- Health and Safety Regulation...A Short Guide (HSE 2003)
- Electrical Safety and You: A Brief Guide (HSE 2012)
- Working with Substances Hazardous to Health: What You Need to Know About COSHH (HSE Revised 2009)
- Getting to Grips with Manual Handling - Frequently Asked Questions: A Short Guide (HSE 2011)

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This policy was adopted at a meeting of _____ *Miss Delaney's*
Held on _____ *(date)*
Date to be reviewed _____ *(date)*
Signed on behalf of Miss Delaney's _____
Name of signatory _____
Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) _____

N.B. As fully discussed during staff induction & training; members of staff present:-

Reviewed by N. Firkin June 2017. To be reviewed June 2018
Reviewed by L. Murray March 2019. To be reviewed March 2020