



Bright Start Montessori

Crofton Oak Scout & Guide Hut, Crofton Road, Orpington, Kent. BR6 8JE

Tel: 01689 850904 **Email:** admin@brightstartmontessori.co.uk

1.0 Health & Safety Policy

Alongside associated procedures in 01.1 to 01.22 Health and Safety, this policy was adopted by Bright Start Montessori on 1st September 2025.

Designated Health and Safety Officer: Michelle Steadman

Aim

Bright Start Montessori is a suitable, clean and safe place for children to be cared for, where they can grow and learn. The team at Bright Start Montessori recognise that the health and safety of the children and our staff is of paramount importance. We aim to make our pre-school an inviting, safe, nurturing and healthy place for children, parents, carers and staff to enjoy. The children are also encouraged to consider health and safety risks, to help the children develop an understanding of what is safe and what is not. We meet all statutory requirements for health and safety and fulfil the criteria for meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements.

Objectives

- We recognise that we have a corporate responsibility and duty of care towards those who work in and receive a service from our provision. Staff at Bright Start Montessori also have responsibility for ensuring their own safety as well as that of others. Adherence to policies and procedures and risk assessment is the key means through which this is achieved.
- The pre-school has public liability insurance and employers' liability insurance. The certificate for public liability insurance is displayed on our notice board.
- Risk assessments are carried out daily to ensure the safety of children, staff, parents, and visitors. Legislation requires all those individuals in the given workplace to be responsible for the health and safety of premises, equipment and working practices.
- Smoking and vaping are not allowed on the premises. Staff do not smoke or vape in their work clothes and are requested not to smoke or vape within at least one hour of working with children. The use of electronic cigarettes is not allowed on the premises.
- Staff must not be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance which may affect their ability to care for children. If staff are taking medication that they believe may impair them, they must seek further medical advice and only work directly with children if that advice is that the medication is unlikely to impair this ability. Any changes in medication must be notified to the Senior Leadership Team.
- Alcohol must not be brought onto the premises for consumption.
- A risk assessment (01.1a Generic risk assessment) and access audit (01.1b Access audit form) are carried out for each area as required and the procedure is modified according to needs identified for the specific environment.
- Risk assessments are monitored and reviewed by those responsible for health and safety.



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Legal references

Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974

Health and Safety (Consultation with Employees) Regulations 1996

Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005)

Electricity at Work Regulations (1989)

Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the hygiene of foodstuffs

Manual Handling Operations Regulations (1992) (Amended 2002)

Medicines Act (1968)

Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR) (Amendment) Regulations 2012

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 2004

Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981

Childcare Act 2006

Further guidance

[Dynamic Risk Management in the Early Years](#) (Alliance Publication)

Health and Safety Executive www.hse.gov.uk/risk

Food Standards Agency www.food.gov.uk

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government www.communities.gov.uk