



Health and safety – 5.1 Risk assessment

Table of contents

Policy Statement	1
Procedures	1
Legal Framework	2
Guidance	2

Policy Statement

Starlings Preschool maintains 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 by assessing and minimising the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment.

The basis of this policy is risk assessment. Risk assessment processes follow five steps as follows:

- Identification of risk: Where is it and what is it?
- Who is at risk: Childcare staff, children, parents, cooks, cleaners etc?
- Assessment as to the level of risk as high, medium, low. This is both the risk of the likelihood of it happening, as well as the possible impact if it did.
- Control measures to reduce/eliminate risk: What will you need to do, or ensure others will do, in order to reduce that risk?
- Monitoring and review: How do you know if what you have said is working, or is thorough enough? If it is not working, it will need to be amended, or maybe there is a better solution.

Procedures

Our risk assessment process covers adults and children and includes:

checking for and noting hazards and risks indoors and outside, and in our premises and for activities;



assessing the level of risk and who might be affected;
deciding which areas need attention; and
developing an action plan that specifies the action required, the timescales for action, the person responsible for the action and any funding required.

The risk assessments are written, shared with staff and reviewed regularly. They are available at the setting for inspection.

We maintain lists of health and safety issues, which are checked daily before the session begins as well as those that are checked on a weekly and termly basis when a full risk assessment is carried out.

Legal framework

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsc13.pdf>

Guidance

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/>

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/index.htm>

<https://www.nurseryworld.co.uk/features/article/eyfs-best-practice-all-about-risk>

This policy was adopted by Starlings Preschool

On 6th September 2021

Date to be reviewed

Signed on behalf of the management committee

Name of signatory Tricia Hunt

Role of signatory Chairperson