44. Links Childcare Fire Safety Policy

Policy Statement
Links Childcare is committed to the safety and welfare of all the children in its care and that of its employees and visitors. This policy outlines Links Childcare’s approach to being fully compliant with all relevant Fire Regulations and to follow the recommendations in the Department of Environment Fire Safety in Pre-Schools booklet.

Procedure

- Links Childcare services has all relevant fire safety equipment and it is inspected annually by a professional.
- During the staff induction a member of management will explain to the staff member how fire drills are carried out/ show the staff member the location of the fire exits/ direct the staff member to the fire drill procedures (on view in each childcare room) and finally the staff member will be asked to complete a fire drill questionnaire.
- Fire Drill procedures are on view in each room in a prominent place
- Fire drills are carried out with staff and children every month
- A record is kept of all fire drills carried out and training undertaken
- The premises’ fire certificate is on display in the main reception area
- Fire Assembly points are clearly labelled and are the point of assembly in an event of a fire

Fire Fighting Facilities

Fire Extinguishers are located throughout all of our buildings:

- In the entrance halls
- In all of the main kitchens (including fire blanket)
- In some of the childcare rooms

There are normally two fire extinguishers (of a type suited to the fire risk in the vicinity) at each point. All staff members are expected to familiarize themselves with the different types:

- Carbon Dioxide C02 – suitable for use on flammable liquid and safe for use on electrical fires;
- Foam AFFF – safe for extinguishing wood, paper, textiles and flammable liquid fires.

Fire Alarms – Fire alarms are generally situated at the following points:

- At front door or outside the main entrances;
- At top landing (in 2 storey buildings);
- Some rooms/corridors may have alarm

Review
Management in consultation with staff monitors and reviews the effectiveness of this policy yearly or as required.