

General Welfare Requirement: Safeguarding and Promoting Children's Welfare

The provider must take necessary steps to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.



KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

Alcohol, Substance Misuse & No Smoking

7 Key features of effective practice

The best for every child	High quality care	The Curriculum	Pedagogy	Assessment	Self-regulation and executive function	Partnership with Parents
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1007446/6.7534_DfE_Development_Matters_Report_and_illustrations_web_2_.pdf						

Policy Statement

At Rotherfield Village Pre-School we are committed to providing a safe environment that helps to ensure the welfare of the children in our care. We comply with health and safety regulations and the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

We are fully dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of children, families, employees, and other visitors to pre-school. We do not allow the misuse of drugs, including alcohol, or smoking. It is our policy that the use of alcohol, illegal drugs or tobacco is prohibited in all areas of the pre-school, including the entrance and immediate encompassing areas.

This policy is informed by the following legislation:

- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- The Children Act 1989/ 2004
- The Medicines Act 1968
- The Misuse of Drug Act 1971
- Health & Safety at Work 1974
- The Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006
www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/20063368.htm
- The Smoke-free (Signs) Regulations 2007 www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/20070923.htm
- Children and Families Act 2014

Alcohol

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, companies have a legal requirement to provide a safe working environment for all of their employees.

- Anyone who arrives at the pre-school clearly under the influence of alcohol will be asked to leave.
- If they are a member of staff, the nursery will investigate the matter and will initiate the disciplinary process as a result of which action may be taken, including dismissal.

- If they are a parent the pre-school will judge if the parent is suitable to care for the child. The pre-school may call the second contact on the child's registration form to collect them.
- If a child is thought to be at risk the pre-school will follow the safeguarding children/child protection procedure and the police/children's social services may be called.
- If anyone arrives at the pre-school in a car under the influence of alcohol the police will be contacted.
- Staff, students, parents, carers, visitors, contractors etc. are not permitted to bring alcohol on to the pre-school premises.

Substance misuse

Anyone who arrives at pre-school under the influence of illegal drugs, or any other substance including prescription medication, that affects their ability to care for children, will be asked to leave the premises immediately.

If they are a member of staff, an investigation will follow which may lead to consideration of disciplinary action, as a result of which dismissal could follow.

If they are a parent, the pre-school will judge if the parent is suitable to care for the child. The pre-school may call the second contact on the child's registration form to collect them.

If a child is thought to be at risk, the pre-school will follow the safeguarding children/child protection procedure and the police may be called.

The pre-school will contact the police if anyone (including staff, students, volunteers, contractors and visitors) is suspected of being in possession of illegal drugs or if they are driving or may drive when under the influence of illegal drugs.

If they are a member of staff serious disciplinary procedures will be followed.

If a member of staff is taking prescriptive medication that may affect their ability to work, they must inform the pre-school manager as soon as possible to arrange for a risk assessment to take place.

Smoking

Smoking is not permitted anywhere in or around the premises, this includes the use of e-cigarettes.

Rotherfield Village Pre-School ensures the following:

- All staff, parents and volunteers are made aware of our No-smoking Policy.
- No-smoking signs are displayed prominently.
- The No-smoking Policy is stated in information for parents and staff.
- We actively encourage no-smoking by having information for parents and staff about where to get help to stop smoking if they are seeking this information.
- Staff who smoke do not do so during working hours
- E-cigarettes are not permitted to be used on the premises.
- Staff are made aware that failure to adhere to this policy and procedures may result in disciplinary action.
- It is a criminal offence for employees to smoke in smoke-free areas, with a fixed penalty of £50 or prosecution and a fine of up to £200

Safeguarding/child protection

If a parent or carer is clearly over the alcohol limit, or under the influence of illegal drugs and it is believed the child is at risk we will follow our safeguarding/child protection procedures, contact Local Authority children's social care team/ the SPoA (Single Point of Advice) and the police.

Staff will do their utmost to prevent a child from travelling in a vehicle driven by them and if necessary, the police will be called.

Where an illegal act is suspected to have taken place, the police will be called.

This Policy was reviewed by	Laura Deveson
Adopted by	Rotherfield Village Pre-School – staff and directors
Date	May 2024
Review Date	May 2025

Review Log

Review Date	Brief Details of Amendments	Amended By	Agreed By
June 2021	Added legislation acts. Merged the No Smoking Policy	Sandra Cawsey	Rotherfield Pre-School Staff & Directors
May 2024	Name Change	Laura Deveson	Rotherfield Pre-School Staff & Directors