

JOEY'S CHILDCARE

Health & Safety Policy

Setting Name: Joey's Childcare

Provider: Rachel Joseph

Address: 11 Carrington Road, Richmond, Surrey, TW10

Registration Status: Awaiting Ofsted Registration

Local Authority: Achieving for Children

Date Written: 1st July 2026

Review Date: 1st July 2027

1. Policy Statement

At Joey's Childcare, I am committed to providing a safe, secure, healthy and nurturing environment where children can learn, play and develop confidently.

Children's safety and wellbeing are paramount. I take all reasonable steps to identify hazards, minimise risks and ensure the environment remains suitable for the children in my care.

This policy is written in accordance with:

- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Statutory Framework
- Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR)
- Food Safety Act 1990
- Ofsted Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements
- Achieving for Children guidance

2. Aims

I aim to:

- Protect children, visitors and myself from harm
- Maintain a safe, secure and hygienic environment

- Identify and manage risks effectively
- Promote children's understanding of safety
- Comply with relevant legislation and guidance
- Support children's health, wellbeing and development
- Create a culture of safety within the setting

3. Responsibilities

As the registered childminder, I am responsible for:

- Maintaining a safe childcare environment
- Conducting risk assessments
- Identifying and managing hazards
- Ensuring children are appropriately supervised
- Maintaining required training and qualifications
- Implementing emergency procedures
- Monitoring health and safety practices
- Reviewing policies and procedures regularly

Health and safety is everyone's responsibility and children will be supported to develop age-appropriate awareness of safe practices.

4. General Safety Measures

I ensure that:

- My home is safe, secure and suitable for childcare
- Safety equipment is maintained and used appropriately
- Hazardous materials are stored safely
- Medicines are stored securely
- Cleaning products are inaccessible to children

- Furniture and equipment are safe and stable
- Play areas remain suitable and free from unnecessary hazards
- Outdoor areas are secure and regularly checked

Children are supervised according to their age, stage of development and individual needs.

5. Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are an essential part of maintaining a safe environment.

I will carry out:

- Daily safety checks of indoor and outdoor areas
- Ongoing risk assessments throughout the day
- Dynamic risk assessments when situations change
- Written risk assessments where required
- Individual risk assessments for specific needs where necessary
- Outings risk assessments

All identified risks will be:

- Assessed
- Reduced where possible
- Monitored regularly
- Reviewed following incidents or changes

Further information can be found within the Risk Assessment Policy.

6. Security of Premises

To ensure children remain safe:

- Doors and gates are kept secure
- Children are supervised during arrivals and collections
- Collection procedures are followed at all times

- Children are only released to authorised adults
- Visitors are monitored appropriately
- Unknown visitors will not be permitted unsupervised access

Any concerns regarding unauthorised access will be managed immediately.

7. Visitor Safety

All visitors must:

- Follow health and safety procedures
- Remain supervised where appropriate
- Respect safeguarding requirements
- Sign in where required

Visitors will never be left alone with children unless appropriate checks and permissions are in place.

8. Fire Safety

Fire safety arrangements include:

- Smoke alarms fitted and regularly tested
- Fire blanket available in the kitchen
- Fire exits kept clear
- Evacuation procedures displayed and understood
- Emergency contact information accessible
- Regular fire drills undertaken and recorded

In the event of a fire:

- Children will be evacuated immediately
- Emergency services will be contacted
- Parents will be informed as soon as possible

Further information can be found within the Fire Evacuation Policy.

9. Emergency Procedures

Emergency procedures are in place for situations including:

- Fire
- Serious injury
- Medical emergencies
- Gas leaks
- Flooding
- Power failure
- Severe weather
- Other emergency situations

Emergency contact details are readily available and appropriate action will be taken to protect children at all times.

10. Electrical and Gas Safety

I ensure that:

- Electrical equipment is visually checked regularly
- Damaged equipment is removed from use immediately
- Socket covers are used where appropriate
- A carbon monoxide alarm is installed and maintained
- Gas appliances are serviced and maintained in accordance with legal requirements
- Children do not have access to electrical hazards

Any concerns regarding electrical or gas safety will be addressed immediately.

11. Manual Handling

To minimise injury risks:

- Children will be lifted safely where necessary
- Appropriate lifting techniques will be used
- Heavy equipment will be moved carefully
- Unnecessary lifting will be avoided

Consideration will be given to both adult and child safety.

12. Hygiene and Infection Control

I maintain high standards of hygiene by ensuring:

- Regular handwashing by adults and children
- Good respiratory hygiene
- Appropriate use of tissues
- Safe disposal of waste
- Cleaning schedules are followed
- Toys and equipment are cleaned regularly
- Nappy changing procedures are hygienic
- Surfaces are cleaned and disinfected appropriately

Additional cleaning measures may be introduced during outbreaks of illness.

Further information can be found within the Illness & Exclusion Policy.

13. Food Safety and Nutrition

I hold a valid Level 2 Food Safety and Hygiene qualification.

I ensure:

- Food is prepared safely
- Food is stored appropriately
- Fridge temperatures are monitored

- Raw and cooked foods are kept separate
- Cross-contamination is prevented
- Children's allergies and dietary requirements are respected
- Fresh drinking water is always available
- Food hygiene regulations are followed

Parents are encouraged to share information about allergies and dietary requirements.

14. Sleep and Rest Arrangements

Sleep and rest arrangements are managed safely.

I will ensure:

- Sleep areas are clean, safe and comfortable
- Children are checked regularly while sleeping
- Safer sleep guidance is followed
- Individual sleep routines are respected where possible
- Parents share relevant sleep information

Further information can be found within the Sleep and Rest Policy.

15. Accidents, Incidents and First Aid

I hold a valid Paediatric First Aid qualification.

I ensure:

- A fully stocked first aid kit is available
- Emergency contact information is accessible
- Accidents are recorded appropriately
- Parents are informed of accidents involving their child
- Near misses are recorded where appropriate
- Accident trends are monitored

Serious incidents will be reported in accordance with RIDDOR and EYFS requirements where applicable.

Further information can be found within the Accident and Incident Policy.

16. Illness and Medication

To protect children's health:

- Unwell children may be excluded where necessary
- Medication is only administered in accordance with parental consent and policy requirements
- Records are maintained
- Healthcare plans are followed where applicable

Further information can be found within the Illness & Exclusion Policy and Medication Administration Policy.

17. Supervision

Children are supervised appropriately at all times.

Supervision arrangements include:

- Indoor play
- Outdoor play
- Mealtimes
- Toileting
- Sleep periods
- Outings
- Individual support where required

Supervision levels are based on children's ages, needs and abilities.

18. Equipment and Resources

I ensure that:

- Equipment is safe and age appropriate
- Toys are clean and well maintained
- Damaged equipment is removed immediately
- Regular safety checks are completed

Resources are organised to promote safe and independent play.

19. Outdoor Safety

Outdoor areas are checked before use.

I ensure:

- Boundaries remain secure
- Equipment is safe
- Weather conditions are considered
- Appropriate clothing is worn
- Children remain supervised

Children are encouraged to explore and take managed risks appropriate to their age and development.

20. Outings

Before outings:

- Appropriate risk assessments are completed
- Emergency contact details are available
- First aid supplies are carried where required
- Appropriate supervision arrangements are planned

During outings:

- Children remain appropriately supervised

- Headcounts are conducted regularly
- Safety procedures are followed

Further information can be found within the Outings Policy.

21. Smoking, Alcohol and Substances

To protect children:

- Smoking and vaping are not permitted during childcare hours or in areas used by children
- Alcohol will not be consumed during childcare hours
- Illegal substances are prohibited
- Hazardous substances are stored securely

Children are protected from exposure to harmful substances at all times.

22. Animals

Where animals are present:

- Children are supervised appropriately
- Hygiene procedures are followed
- Risk assessments are completed
- Animal welfare is considered

Further information can be found within the Animals in the Setting Policy.

23. Safeguarding

Health and safety and safeguarding are closely linked.

Any concerns regarding:

- Unsafe practices
- Neglect

- Dangerous environments
- Risks to children's welfare

will be managed in accordance with the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

The welfare of the child will always be the priority.

24. Record Keeping

Appropriate records will be maintained including:

- Risk assessments
- Accident and incident records
- Fire drill records
- Safety checks
- Maintenance records
- Training records where appropriate

Records will be stored securely and reviewed regularly.

25. Working with Parents

I work in partnership with parents to:

- Share health and safety information
- Understand children's needs
- Promote consistency between home and the setting
- Address concerns promptly
- Support children's wellbeing

Open communication helps maintain a safe environment for all children.

26. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be:

- Reviewed annually
- Updated following significant incidents
- Updated following legislative changes
- Updated following changes to the premises
- Reviewed following near misses or identified risks
- Shared with parents

Final Statement

At Joey's Childcare, I am committed to maintaining the highest standards of health and safety to ensure children can learn, play and develop in a safe, secure and nurturing environment.

Through effective risk management, supervision, partnership with parents and continuous review of safety practices, I aim to promote children's wellbeing and provide the safest possible childcare environment.

Signed: _____

Date: _____