



Health & Safety Policy

Setting Name: Golden Acorns

Date: April 2026

1. Statement of Intent

We are committed to providing a safe, secure and healthy environment for all children, staff and visitors. We recognise that effective health and safety practice is essential to safeguarding children and promoting their wellbeing. We aim to minimise risks, prevent accidents and ensure children are cared for in an environment that supports their safety and development.

Health and safety is the responsibility of everyone within the setting. All staff are expected to follow procedures, identify hazards and take appropriate action to maintain a safe environment.

2. Legal Framework

This policy is based on current health and safety legislation and statutory guidance, including:

- 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 and Hygiene (England) Regulations 2013
- The setting complies with all relevant health and safety requirements.



3. Roles and Responsibilities

Management has overall responsibility for health and safety within the setting. This includes ensuring risk assessments are completed, policies are implemented and staff receive appropriate training and support.

Staff are responsible for maintaining safe practice in their daily work, supervising children effectively and reporting hazards, accidents or concerns immediately. Staff must follow all health and safety procedures and contribute to maintaining a safe environment.

All visitors are expected to follow health and safety procedures while on the premises.

4. Risk Assessment

Risk assessments are carried out to identify potential hazards and minimise risks to children, staff and visitors. Risk assessments cover indoor and outdoor areas, equipment, activities and outings.

Daily safety checks are completed before children access areas. Any identified hazards are removed, repaired or managed appropriately. Risk assessments are reviewed regularly and updated when changes occur.

5. Premises and Environment

The premises are maintained to ensure they are safe, secure and suitable for children. Rooms are organised to allow safe movement and appropriate supervision. Safety measures such as secure entrances, safety gates and protective equipment are used where required.

Temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness are maintained to support children's health and comfort. Outdoor areas are checked regularly to ensure they are safe and free from hazards.

6. Equipment and Resources



All furniture, equipment and play materials are suitable for children's ages and stages of development and are maintained in safe condition. Equipment is checked regularly and removed or repaired if damaged.

Children are supported to use equipment safely and staff supervise activities appropriately to reduce risk.

7. Supervision and Deployment

Children are supervised at all times. Staff deployment ensures children remain within sight or hearing of staff and ratios are maintained in line with EYFS requirements.

Staff position themselves to monitor children's safety effectively during play, routines and transitions. Particular attention is given to higher-risk activities and areas.

8. Accidents and Incidents

All accidents and incidents are responded to promptly and recorded accurately. First aid is administered by trained staff and parents are informed of any accidents involving their child.

Records are reviewed to identify patterns or hazards and appropriate action is taken to prevent recurrence. Serious accidents or incidents are reported to relevant authorities in line with RIDDOR requirements.

9. Fire Safety

The setting has clear fire safety procedures. Fire exits are kept clear at all times and alarms and firefighting equipment are maintained and tested regularly.

Fire drills are carried out regularly so staff and children are familiar with evacuation procedures. Staff understand their responsibilities in the event of fire or emergency evacuation.

10. Hygiene and Infection Control



High standards of hygiene are maintained to reduce the spread of infection. Staff follow procedures for handwashing, cleaning, food preparation and nappy changing.

Illness and exclusion procedures are followed to protect children and staff from contagious illness. Cleaning schedules are implemented to maintain a hygienic environment.

11. Food Safety

Food is stored, prepared and served safely in accordance with food safety guidance. Staff involved in food handling follow hygiene procedures and maintain appropriate food safety training where required.

Children's dietary requirements and allergies are identified and managed safely.

12. Outings

Risk assessments are completed before outings. Staff ratios and supervision arrangements ensure children's safety outside the setting. Emergency contact information and first aid supplies are taken on outings.

Children are supervised closely and safety rules are followed during visits outside the premises.

13. Monitoring and Review

Health and safety practice is monitored through regular checks, staff discussions and incident review. This policy is reviewed annually or sooner if legislation or practice changes.