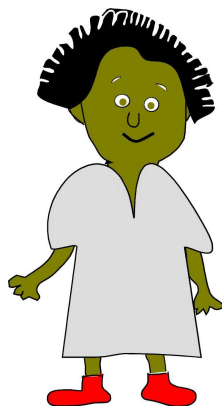


Childminder's Risk

Heading 20: suitable premises,
Practice Guidance for the Early Years



Assessment Document

environment and equipment from
Foundation Stage

Name of childminder	
Address	
Number of children minded	
Hours of operation	
Days of week	
Date of last full risk assessment	
Review date	

The law and the Early Years Foundation Stage require childminders to carry out risk assessments. These risk assessments should be reviewed regularly and be suitable and sufficient. This document is my risk assessment.

I have written when I have checked a particular area on the relevant page and have made notes in the comments section where appropriate. I cross out the old date and write the new date when I review the assessment for that section.

On a daily basis before the children arrive I walk through my home, garden and any other area over which I have control checking to see that it is safe for the children.

If we are planning anything out of the ordinary, such as a trip or an activity, I ensure the risk assessment for that activity is carried out and is relevant.

This risk assessment document is kept available *(location)* for colleagues, parents and any outside official such as Ofsted or environmental health to view or inspect

Signed

Date



Risk assessment audit form – this what I am looking for when I carry out a risk assessment

Boundaries and gates	Yes	No	Date	Comment
Are the boundaries and gates secure with no gaps a child could pass through				
Gates self close, the latch is out of reach of children				
Parents and visitors are asked to keep the gate closed at all times				
Water hazards, for example ponds, drains and pools				
All water hazards are securely fenced?				
Children are constantly supervised when close to water or bathing				
All drains are securely covered and do not cause a trip hazard				
The temperature of water which may be in contact with children is below 43°C				
Ponds, drains, pools or any natural water are made safe or inaccessible to children.				
Hazardous substances and equipment				
The numbers of hazardous substances (such as cleaning materials, glue, paints, petrol) are kept to a minimum				
A list of all the hazardous substances and the safety precautions is in the chemical storage cupboard				
All hazardous substances and equipment are locked away and inaccessible to children				
Safety data sheets are available for hazardous substances				
First aid arrangements in place for an emergency				



Medicines are stored safely.				
Hazardous plants				
There are no hazardous plants inside or outside				
Can these be eliminated or removed				
If hazardous plants are present are they covered, fenced or cut back to eliminate the hazard				
Pets and other animals				
No animals pose a biting or attack risk to a child				
None of the children are allergic to the animal/hair				
No animals carry any risk of infection (e.g. Iguanas / salmonella infection)				
No animal faeces or urine are present in the areas children have access to				
Animal immunisations are up-to-date				
Food and water bowls and litter trays kept out of reach of children				
Precautions taken to control worms and fleas				
Cages and enclosures secured				
Animals sharing environment with children under control and well disciplined				
Electricity and gas				
Burns or shock risks are adequately controlled				
Gas appliances have been checked for safety				
The electrical system has been checked for safety				
Electrical wires and flexes are in good condition and not overloaded				
All plug sockets are used by a single plug only				
Plugs are in good condition and the pins are insulated?				
Circuit breakers (rcd's) are used where appropriate?				



The use of socket covers in electrical sockets				
All sockets in areas accessible to children are covered				
All trailing sockets are provided with covers				
All trailing wires in areas such as kitchen are well out of reach of children				
Doors, windows and glass				
All windows are fitted with a suitable secure childproof lock				
All windows are in good condition and free of any risk of glass splinters or shatter				
All low level glass in windows and doors is suitable safety glass				
No furniture is placed unsafely near to windows? (cannot be used to climb up and out				
Safety film for glass fitted where necessary				
Floors and stairs				
Floors are even				
Floors are free of trip hazards such as loose carpets or tiles				
Spills are cleaned up immediately				
Floor surfaces are suitable for use i.e. Easy to clean and impervious in kitchen and bathroom areas				
There is a handrail and or adequate balustrade on stairs				
Stairs are free from obstruction? (shoes, boxes, Magazines)				
Stair gates are provided				
Portable ladders/steps are in good condition?				
All rugs are secure				



Are abrupt changes in the floor clearly marked?				
Stacked furniture				
Is stacked furniture secure and inaccessible to children				
Is stacked furniture unable to topple				
Are manual handling risks to a child or adult involved in the stacking or moving of furniture adequately managed				
The kitchen and food preparation/access to the kitchen				
Is access to children to the kitchen denied (gate or play pen)				
Are all sharp utensils locked and out of reach of children when not in use				
Are all surfaces accessible to children at a safe temperature				
Are all hot or cooking containers out of reach of children				
Are there child proof catches on cupboards and drawers?				
Is there sufficient unobstructed workspace?				
Are appropriate food safety procedures in place, has the childminder an appropriate food safety qualification				
Food preparation equipment maintained in clean state				
Fridge kept at 4-5°C and freezer at -18°C				
Food covered in fridge and raw meat kept at bottom				
Waste bins securely closed and maintained in clean condition				
Cupboards accessible to children checked for				



dangerous substances including cleaning materials, alcohol, tobacco, matches, plastic bags				
Hot appliances				
Are all hot appliances inaccessible to children				
Hygiene, cleanliness and minimising the risk of infection				
Are suitable washing and cleaning facilities available				
Is there a proper routine for cleaning in place				
Are all towels and clothes laundered at above 75°C				
Are proper handwashing facilities available				
Are proper handwashing procedures carried out				
Is there an appropriate policy in place to manage unwell or infectious children or adults (exclusion for 48 hours after last sign of illness or as otherwise advised)				
Outings and trips				
Has the risk assessment for outings by car been completed if appropriate				
Has the risk assessment for outings by public transport been completed if appropriate				
Has the risk assessment for outings to the shops been completed if appropriate				
Has the risk assessment for outings by walking been completed if appropriate				
Has the risk assessment for outings general been completed if appropriate				
Fire safety				
Has a fire safety risk assessment been carried out				
Do you have a fire escape route clearly identified				



Are smoke alarms provided in suitable places, are these alarms checked regularly				
Is a fire blanket to be provided in the kitchen				
Have steps been taken to reduce the risk from fire e.g. No portable heaters, deep frying, matches, smoking materials				
Is furniture suitable and comply with furniture and furnishings (fire safety) regulations 1988				
Is electrical wiring in good condition and all appliances fitted with an appropriate fuse				
A smoke alarm is fitted on each floor				
Has the local fire and rescue department been contacted about a free fire check for the premises				
The condition of prams, pushchairs, highchairs and low chairs				
Do prams and pushchairs comply with British standard 7409				
Are there are no sharp edges or points				
Does the main lock and secondary lock engage and work properly				
Is the safety harness in good condition				
Are the wheels secure				
Does the parking brake work, both forwards and backwards				
Are prams, pushchairs, high chairs and low seating generally in good condition				
Do highchairs meet BS 5799: 1986. Is this clearly marked to indicate compliance.				



Is the highchair marked with the statement: 'warning – the child should at all times wear a safety harness correctly fitted and adjusted. Do not leave the child unattended.'				
Do highchairs have an integral safety harness, or is there are attachment points in the form of loops or rings for the attachment of a safety harness				
Is there is a crotch strap to prevent the child slipping out of the highchair				
There are no open ended tubes, projections, loose washers, nuts or crevices in which a child's finger(s) or flesh could be trapped				
There are no sharp edges, corners or other projecting parts, there are no scissoring, shearing or pinching hazards when the product is erected for use				
The chair back is at least 350mm high				
The use of safety harnesses				
Is there a safety harness to the pram pushchair?				
Is there a safety harness to the high chair?				
Does the safety harness go over the shoulders as well as around the waist and between the legs and the				
Does the harness fit the baby correctly				
Is there a five-point baby harness for use on rough ground.				
Is the harness in good condition and will it keep the baby secure				



The condition of toys and other equipment				
Toys are safe, and labeled with any appropriate warnings.				
There are no toys with small detachable parts which could pose a choking hazard to a young child				
Toys are labeled with the CE mark				
Appropriate cleaning and disinfection procedures are in place for toys				
Have knitted or similar toys that appear to be home made been eliminated				
Are items such as facial features, buttons etc securely attached?				
Is the toy intact with no exposed points or sharp edges?				
Does the toy still have instructions for safe use (if necessary)?				
Have any old batteries been removed?				
Do painted toys look fairly new? (<i>paint on very old toys may contain lead</i>)				
Sandpits and their protection from contamination				
The sandpit is protected from contamination and the sand is clean				
Is the sand pit constructed securely and is free from sharp edges etc?				
The sand used in the sand pits is play or silver sand.				
Is the sand free from hazardous substances or objects?				
Are all steel / metal columns supporting the sandpit protected by padding?				



Furniture, equipment and toys				
Furniture, toys and equipment on the premises are in good repair and Conform to bs en safety standards or the toys (safety) regulations (1995)				
Furniture and equipment is sufficiently sturdy and stable				
Furniture is of suitable design and condition, well maintained				
Furniture, equipment and toys are kept clean and where appropriate, suitably disinfected				
The arrangements for monitoring children who are sleeping				
Is the childminder aware of advice from the department of health advice on reducing the risk of cot death Which is available at: www.dh.gov.uk 'reduce the risk of cot death (2009 edition)'				
The sleeping area is constantly monitored				
Environmental conditions are suitable for children to sleep (temperature, noise, light)				
The bed or cot does not pose a risk to the child				
Linens such as bedding and towels				
There is an adequate supply of clean Bedding, towels, spare clothes available.				
Cloths and towels Used in the kitchen are laundered separately From clothes and bed linen				



Soiled clothing and towels are placed in a sealed waterproof bag for the parent To collect and launder at Home				
Children cannot Gain access to the laundry				
Dirty laundry is Transported and stored safely				
Dirty laundry is washed at 75°C to decontaminate				
Clean laundry is stored away from contamination				
Any other relevant areas				
Are cots clear of choking, strangling hazards (toys with cords etc)				
Are cots positioned away from heat sources, blind chords, curtains?				
Are cot bars spaced at a maximum of 60mm?				
Environmental conditions (temperature, noise, humidity, light) are suitable for use				
Front -door lockable and keys available				
All hallways and exits kept clear of clutter				
Bathroom/toilet				
Toilet bowls and seats, potties and wash basins maintained in hygienic condition				
Cupboards accessible to children checked for dangerous substances including medication, toiletries/cosmetics, razor blades and cleaning materials				
Toilet brush kept out of reach of children				
Waste bins securely closed and maintained in clean condition				
Outside areas				
Barriers to children's access to greenhouses				



and cold frames, and to steep steps as appropriate				
Garage, garden shed and out houses are secure				
Garden, car maintenance and diy equipment and materials, and sporting equipment secured out of children's reach				
Outside play equipment appropriately positioned in good repair and securely anchored as necessary				



Useful downloads

Bromley Childminding Association <http://www.bromleycma.org.uk/policies/downloads.html>

Daily check: www.bromleycma.org.uk/eyfs/EYFS_Risk_Assessment.doc

Outing: Car: www.bromleycma.org.uk/eyfs/Risk_Assess_Outings_template_Car_sample.doc

Outing: Public:

www.bromleycma.org.uk/eyfs/Risk%20Assess_Outings_template_public_transport_sample.doc

Outing: Shops: www.bromleycma.org.uk/eyfs/Risk_Assess_Outings_template_shops_sample.doc

Outing: Walking: http://www.bromleycma.org.uk/eyfs/Risk_Assess_Outings_template_walking_sample.doc

Outing: www.bromleycma.org.uk/eyfs/Risk_Assess_Outings_template.doc

http://www.bromleycma.org.uk/policies/Risk_Assessment.doc

Trading Standards Wales

Nursery Equipment and Other Children's Goods

http://www.tradingstandswales.org.uk/read_write/File/Nursery%20Equipment%20and%20Other%20Children.pdf

Lancaster City Council

Child Care Safety Audit - www.lancaster.gov.uk/Documents/EnvHealth/HS/Child_Safety_Audit.pdf

NHS

Reduce the risk of cot death

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4123625

