



Health and safety procedures

2.16 Notifiable incident, non- child protection

Staff respond swiftly, appropriately and effectively in the case of an incident within the setting. Notifiable incidents in this procedure are those not involving child protection.

A 'notifiable' incident' could include:

- fire or suspected arson
- electric or Gas fault
- burst pipe, severe leak or flooding
- severe weather that has caused an incident or damage to property
- break-in with vandalism or theft
- staff, parent or visitor mugged or assaulted on site or in vicinity on the way to or from the setting
- outbreak of a notifiable disease
- staff or parent threatened/assaulted on the premises by a parent or visitor
- accidents due to any other faults (that are reportable under RIDDOR)
- lost child
- any event or information that becomes known, that may have implications for the setting or the wider organisation in the future use

The designated health and safety officer or another named person:

- has all emergency services numbers immediately to hand
- has a list of contacts for maintenance and repair
- ensure that members of staff know what to do in an emergency
- risk assess the situation and decides, with the owners/trustees/directors, if the premises are safe to receive children before any children arrive or to offer a limited service

Emergency evacuation

In most instances, children will not be evacuated from the premises unless there is an immediate risk or unless they are advised to do so by the emergency services.

- There is an emergency evacuation procedure in place which is unique to the setting and based upon risk assessment in line with others using the building.
- Emergency evacuation procedures are practised regularly and are reviewed according to risk assessment (as above).
- Staff evacuate children to a pre-designated area (as per the fire drill), unless advised by the emergency services that the designated area is not suitable at that time.
- Once evacuated, nobody enters the premises, until the emergency services say so.
- Members of staff will always act upon the advice of the emergency services.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ When the alarm is raised by way of a loud, continuous ring and flashing red light on the wall, the senior member of staff will take charge of the children and staff registers, visitors book and evacuation bag. He/she will be responsible for checking the toilets, cupboards, under the tables and any other hiding places where the children may not be immediately visible. They will shut all windows and doors after them. The leader is the last person out of the hall.▪ The main stair way will be used unless otherwise stated, in which case the rear staircase will be used. Staff will guide and lead the children to the door and position themselves evenly through the line before descending the stairs. Younger children and those that require extra support on the stairs should have their hands held. The aim is to leave the building as promptly and as soon as possible and staff must encourage children to walk down the stairs quickly and safely. Staff must remain vigilant and be aware of all children's safety as well as those whose hands they are holding.▪ When exiting via the rear stair way, staff will assemble at the Church lawn in the fenced off area. Children are to be lined up around the perimeter wall of the park when using the main stair way. Staff must remain vigilant when using this exit as children have to walk by the road and are in an unsecure area.▪ The leader takes the children's, staff, and visitors (when appropriate) registers as quickly as possible. Staff can answer for a child that is seen not answering.▪ When returning to the hall from the lawn staff will encourage children to form a line and position themselves throughout, ensuring young children and those that require extra support have their hands held. When using the main staircase will again evenly position themselves throughout the line of children whilst they are still standing in front of the wall and locate those that need extra help on the stairs. The leader will guide the children out of the park and up the stairs that leads to the main staircase. | |
|---|--|

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The fire drill/evacuation book must be filled in after the procedure is complete by the senior member of the team.▪ If a real fire is suspected, any member of staff should call the fire brigade when all the children and staff have been safely evacuated from the building.▪ Management should call the parents of the children, so that arrangements can be made for their collection.▪ Suspicious packages or parcels should not be touched, and the police should be alerted. | |
|---|--|

Emergency Closure

The circumstances under which the setting may be closed due to an incident include:

- The owners/directors/trustees make the decision to close – thereby withdrawing the service.
- A third party makes the decision to close for example:
 - the emergency services
- A parent/carer makes the decision for their child not to attend.
 - If a parent/carer makes the decision for their child not to attend due to a critical incident, the child's fees are due as normal.
 - Further consideration of individual incidences must be done in consultation with the owners/trustees/directors.

Recording and reporting

- On discovery of the notifiable incident, the member of staff reports to the appropriate emergency service, fire, police, ambulance, if those services are needed.
- The member of staff ensures that the setting manager and/or deputy are informed (if not on the premises at the time) and that the owners/trustees/directors are informed.
- The setting manager completes and sends an incident record to the owners/trustees/directors, who, according to the severity of the incident notifies Ofsted and/or RIDDOR.
- If the incident indicates that a crime may have been committed, all staff witness to the incident should make a written statement.
- Staff do not discuss the incident with the press.

RIDDOR reportable events include:

- Specified injuries at work, as detailed at www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg453.pdf
- Fatal accidents to staff, children, and visitors (parents/carers).
- Accidents resulting in the incapacitation of staff for more than seven days.

- Injuries to members of the public, including parents/carers' and children, where they are taken to hospital.
- Dangerous 'specified' occurrences, where no-one is injured but they could have been. (these are usually industrial incidents).

This may include:

- a member of staff injures back at work through lifting and is off for two weeks
- a parent/carer slips on a wet floor near the water tray and is taken to hospital
- a child falls from a climbing frame and is taken to hospital
- the ceiling collapses
- an outbreak of Legionella

The setting manager informs the owners/trustees/directors and completes an accident and/or incident record; witness statements are taken as previously detailed.

- If the incident is RIDDOR reportable, the setting manager telephones HSE Contact Centre on 0345 300 9923 or reports online at www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/report.htm
- RIDDOR Reportable events require reporting to RIDDOR within 15 days of the event occurring.

The local authority investigates all reported injuries, diseases, or dangerous occurrences. They will decide if there has been a breach in health and safety regulations and will decide what measures will be taken.

The owners/trustees/directors review how the situation was managed, as above, to ensure that investigations were rigorous, and that policies and procedures were followed.

If an insurance claim is likely:

- incidents such as fire, theft or flood are notified to the insurance provider immediately
- the setting does not admit liability
- if broken or faulty equipment is involved, it must not be repaired, destroyed, or disposed of, in case it is needed during the investigation
- if communication from a solicitor is received on behalf of the injured party, this is sent directly to the insurance provider; the setting manager will then write to the solicitor to confirm that the letter has been passed on
- the incident is not discussed with any outside persons, or other parents/carers, no matter what questions they may ask about their own child's safety in relation to the incident, as it is regarded as confidential under the Data Protection Act.