

Beacon Alternative Provision

Health and Safety Policy



1. Introduction

Beacon Alternative Provision is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all children, staff, and visitors. This policy outlines the procedures and measures in place to create a safe learning environment for children taught at home or in mutually agreed venues.

2. Responsibilities

- **Head of Provision:** Overall responsibility for health and safety, ensuring policies are implemented and reviewed.
- **Staff:** Responsible for adhering to health and safety guidelines, conducting risk assessments, and reporting hazards.
- **Parents/Guardians:** Ensure the home environment is safe for learning and cooperate with staff in implementing safety measures.

3. Risk Assessments

- Conduct risk assessments for all learning environments, including homes and agreed venues.
- Identify potential hazards and implement measures to mitigate risks.
- Regularly review and update risk assessments, particularly when changes occur.

4. Safe Learning Environment

- Ensure the home or venue is clean, well-ventilated, and free from hazards.
- Maintain clear, unobstructed walkways and exits.
- Provide adequate lighting and heating.
- Ensure electrical equipment is safe and regularly inspected.
- Store hazardous substances securely and out of reach of children.

5. Fire Safety

- Ensure smoke alarms are installed and functioning in all learning environments.
- Identify and clearly mark emergency exits.
- Conduct regular fire drills and ensure all children are aware of evacuation procedures.

- Provide fire extinguishers and train staff in their use.

6. First Aid

- Ensure a first aid kit is available in each learning environment.
- Designate a trained first aider and ensure their certification is up to date.
- Record all accidents and incidents, and report serious incidents to the appropriate authorities.

7. Safeguarding

- Implement safeguarding policies to protect children from harm.
- Ensure all staff undergo DBS checks and safeguarding training.
- Maintain a safe and supportive learning environment, encouraging children to report any concerns.

8. Transportation

- Ensure vehicles used for transporting children are roadworthy, insured, and regularly maintained.
- Verify that drivers hold a valid driving licence and are competent.
- Use appropriate child restraints and seat belts for all passengers.
- Plan routes to minimise travel time and ensure safety.

9. COVID-19 and Infectious Diseases

- Follow government guidelines for managing COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.
- Implement hygiene measures, including regular handwashing and sanitising.
- Ensure children and staff who show symptoms stay at home and follow isolation guidelines.
- Clean and disinfect learning environments regularly.

10. Behaviour Management

- Implement behaviour management policies to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment.
- Address any behavioural issues promptly and fairly.
- Provide support and guidance to children with behavioural difficulties.

11. Training and Information

- Provide health and safety training for all staff.
- Ensure staff are aware of and understand the health and safety policy.
- Keep parents/guardians informed about health and safety measures and any changes to the policy.

12. Review and Monitoring

- Regularly review and update the health and safety policy to reflect changes in legislation and practice.
- Monitor compliance with the policy and address any issues promptly.
- Seek feedback from staff, children, and parents/guardians to improve health and safety practices.

By adhering to this health and safety policy, Beacon Alternative Provision aims to create a secure and nurturing environment conducive to effective learning.