



A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Every child deserves a safe and nurturing environment to thrive. Early years settings play a crucial role in providing this foundation, ensuring children's well-being and fostering their development. This requires a strong commitment to health and safety, achieved through a shared responsibility between providers, staff, parents, and guardians.

Building A Safe Environment:

- **EYFS Framework:** Ensures children are protected and receive the best care possible.
- **Legal Requirements:** All providers must follow legal regulations to keep children safe.
- **Shared Responsibility:** Everyone plays a part in keeping children safe:

• Providers:

Providers help to ensure a safe environment through risk assessments, comprehensive policies, and emergency plans (fires, weather, public health).



• Staff:

All staff are well-trained to manage risks in daily activities (medicine, food allergies, outdoor play).

• Parents/Guardians:

Everyone must report hazards, follow safety rules and partner with the setting for the best child safety practices.



Key Health & Safety Policies

Risk Assessments

Regularly identify and manage potential hazards in the environment.

The Setting

Ensure fire safety, hygiene, and safe maintenance of the setting.

Food & Drink

Maintain high hygiene standards and manage allergies effectively.

Emergency Procedures

Know how to respond to emergencies like fires, injuries, or severe weather..

Specific Procedures:

Policies should cover medicines, COSHH regulations (hazardous substances) & manual handling.

Outings & Outdoors

Ensure safe supervision during trips and outdoor playtime activities.

Effective Risk Management:

- Regularly assess the environment for potential hazards.
- Balance risk reduction with allowing children to explore safely.
- Train staff to identify and manage risks during everyday activities.
- Partner with parents/guardians to report hazards and keep children safe.



Remember:

- **Review & Update:** Regularly review and update policies and procedures.
- **Everyone Plays a Role:** Work together to create a safe and secure environment.