8.5a Safety Check

Policy Statement

At Privett Montessori Nursery School we make sure the Nursery is a safe environment for children, parents, staff and visitors by carrying out safety checks on a regular basis in accordance with the timescales set out in the nursery checklists. These include daily checks of the premises, indoors and outdoors, and all equipment and resources before the children access any of the areas. The checks are recorded to show any issues and solutions.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the fire safety, risk assessments, visits and outings and the equipment and resources policies.

All staff should be aware of potential hazards in the School Nursery environment and monitor safety at all times.

Risk assessments
Risk assessments document the hazard, who could be harmed, existing controls, the seriousness of the risk/injury, any further action needed to control the risk, who is responsible for what action, when/how often will the action be undertaken, and how will this be monitored and checked and by whom.

The Nursery School carries out written risk assessments at least annually. These are regularly reviewed and cover potential risks to children, staff and visitors at the nursery. When circumstances change in the nursery, e.g. a significant piece of equipment is introduced; we review our current risk assessment or conduct a new risk assessment dependent on the nature of this change.

All staff are trained in the risk assessment process to ensure understanding and compliance.

All outings away from the nursery are individually risk assessed. For more details refer to the visits and outings policy.

Hints and tips
Please refer to the Health and Safety Executive's 'Five Steps to Risk Assessment for further support with the risk assessment process The Five Steps to Risk Assessment publication and risk assessment templates can be downloaded from the Health and Safety Executive's website at www.hse.gov.uk

- All electrical cables are kept out of the reach of children wherever possible and shielded by furniture where they need to be at floor level
- Electrical sockets are all risk assessed and any appropriate safety measures are in place to ensure the safety of the children.

Mains information
Locations of:

- Water stop tap: in the kitchen
- Gas point: specific small room with doors
- Fuse box: next to the main electricity box
- Main electricity box: up high the entry door

Dangerous substances
All dangerous substances including chemicals MUST be kept in locked areas out of children's reach. All substances must be kept in their original containers with their original labels attached. Safety Data Sheets (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)) and risk assessments must be kept for all substances and the appropriate personal protection taken and used e.g. gloves, apron and goggles.

Hot drinks and food
Hot drinks must only be consumed in the staff room. No canned drinks, sweets or crisps are to be kept or consumed in the Nursery School

Transport and outings
The nursery has a comprehensive documented policy relating to outings, which incorporates all aspects of health and safety procedures including the arrangements for transporting and the supervision of children when away from the nursery.

Room temperatures
- Staff should be aware of room temperatures in the Nursery School and should ensure that they are suitable at all times and recorded on the appropriate sheet. There is a thermometer in the room
- Staff must always be aware of the dangers young children being too warm or too cold
- Temperatures should not fall below 18°C in the room16°C in all other areas

Water supplies
- A fresh drinking supply is available and accessible to all children, staff and visitors
- All hot water taps accessible to children are thermostatically controlled to ensure that the temperature of the water does not exceed 40°C.

Gas appliances
- All gas appliances are checked annually by a registered Gas Safety Register engineer
- Carbon monoxide detectors are fitted.

Change log		
This policy was changed on	**Signed on behalf of the nursery**	**Reason for change**
7/08/2020	Veronica van Ingen	Adoption of policy
27/10/2021	Veronica van Ingen	No changes, part of annual review
28/01/2026	Veronica van Ingen	No Changes