



## 2.21 Fire Safety and Emergency Evacuation

### Policy statement

The Spring Montessori ensures the highest possible standard of fire precautions are in place. The person in charge and our staff are familiar with the current legal requirements. Where necessary we seek the advice of a competent person, such as our Fire Officer or Fire Safety Consultant. A Fire Safety Log Book is used to record the findings of risk assessment, any actions taken or incidents that have occurred and our fire drills. For group provision: We ensure our policy is in line with the procedures specific to our building, making reasonable adjustments as required.

### Procedures

#### *Fire safety risk assessment*

- The basis of fire safety is risk assessment, carried out by a 'competent person'.
- The Health and Safety Officer (**Grace Vincent**) and managers (**Helen Reader**) received training in fire safety sufficient to be competent to carry out the risk assessment; this will be written and will follow the Government guidance Fire Safety Risk Assessment - Educational Premises (HMG 2006).
  - Our fire safety risk assessment focuses on the following for each area of the setting:
  - Electrical plugs, wires and sockets.
  - Electrical items.
  - Gas boilers.
  - Cookers.
  - Matches.
  - Flammable materials – including furniture, furnishings, paper etc.
  - Flammable chemicals.
  - Means of escape.
  - Anything else identified.
- As we rent premises, we ensure that we have a copy of the fire safety risk assessment that applies to the building and that we contribute to regular reviews.

#### *Fire safety precautions taken*

- We ensure that fire doors are clearly marked, never obstructed and easily opened from the inside.
- We ensure that smoke detectors/alarms and fire fighting appliances conform to BS EN standards, are fitted in appropriate high risk areas of the building and are checked as specified by the manufacturer.
- We have all electrical equipment checked annually by a qualified electrician. Any faulty electrical equipment is taken out of use and either repaired or replaced.
- Our emergency evacuation procedures are approved by the Fire Safety Officer and are:
  - clearly displayed in the premises;

- explained to new members of staff, volunteers and parents; and
- practised regularly, at least once every six weeks.
- Records are kept of fire drills and of the servicing of fire safety equipment.

### ***Emergency evacuation procedure***

Our Evacuation procedure is as follows (this can be found displayed throughout the setting):

- On detecting an emergency, a member of staff will blow the whistle loudly, in 3 clear, short blasts.
- Ensure all children follow staff immediately to the nearest exit.
- One member of staff (The Manager) will collect the written register, iPad and mobile telephone.
- One member of staff will sweep the building entirely (The Deputy Manager)
- Children will follow staff to Assembly Point, on the church footpath.
- The Manager will call the register for staff and children.
- The Deputy Manager will phone the emergency services.
- The Manager will phone parents using the mobile phone.
- Shelter can be taken inside the church if necessary.

### ***Fire drills***

We hold fire drills termly and record the following information about each fire drill in the Fire Safety Log Book:

- The date and time of the drill.
- Number of adults and children involved.
- How long it took to evacuate.
- Whether there were any problems that delayed evacuation.
- Any further action taken to improve the drill procedure.

### **Legal framework**

- Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

### **Further guidance**

- Fire Safety Risk Assessment - Educational Premises (HMG 2006)

This policy was adopted by \_\_\_\_\_ *(name of provider)*

On \_\_\_\_\_ *(date)*

Date to be reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ *(date)*

Signed on behalf of the provider \_\_\_\_\_

Name of signatory \_\_\_\_\_

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) \_\_\_\_\_

### **Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications**

- Fire Safety Record (2015)