Dean Field Community Primary School

EYFS: Health and Safety General Standards Policy

Name of Policy Writer/Amendments	Date Written/Amended	Next Review Date
KFudge	July 2020	July 2021
KFudge	July 2021	July 2022
KFudge	July 2022	July 2023
KFudge	July 2023	July 2024
L Brambani	July 2024	July 2025
L Brambani	July 2025	July 2026
L Brambani	July 2026	July 2027

Policy statement

At Dean Field, we believe that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We make our setting a safe and healthy place for children, parents, staff and volunteers.

- We aim to make children, parents, staff and volunteers aware of health and safety issues and to minimise the hazards and risks to enable the children to thrive in a healthy and safe environment.
- The school site management team and senior leaders oversee health and safety responsibilities, supported by the Trust's health and safety arrangements. Staff report hazards promptly and follow the school's escalation procedures.
- They undertake health and safety training regularly for their own knowledge and understanding.
- We display the necessary health and safety information **in the staff room, on our shared PDrive and in our staff handbook, which is issued every September or when a new member starts at Dean Field.**

Insurance cover

Dean Field has public liability insurance and employers' liability insurance (RPA). The certificate for public liability insurance is displayed in: **The school entrance way and the business manager's office.**

Procedures

General premises, fire, electrical, cleaning and maintenance procedures are set out in the whole-school Health and Safety Policy. This policy sets out the additional arrangements used within Nursery and Reception, alongside the EYFS statutory framework effective 1 September 2026.

Storage

- All of our resources and materials, which are used by the children, are stored safely away or at a safe and reachable height for the children to use.
- All of our equipment and resources are stored or stacked safely to prevent them accidentally falling or collapsing.

Outdoor area

- Our outdoor area is securely fenced. All gates and fences are childproof and safe.
- Our outdoor area is checked for safety and cleared of rubbish, animal droppings and any other unsafe items before it is used.
- Adults and children are alerted to the dangers of poisonous plants, herbicides and pesticides.
- The water wall/tray is regularly cleaned and securely covered when not in use.
- We leave receptacles upturned to prevent collection of rainwater. Where water can form a pool on equipment, it is emptied and cleaned before children start playing outside.
- Our outdoor sand pit is covered when not in use and is cleaned daily.
- We check that children are suitably attired for the weather conditions and type of outdoor activities; ensuring that suncream is applied and hats are worn during the summer months or waterproof clothing is provided in wet weather conditions.
- We supervise outdoor activities at all times; and particularly children on climbing equipment.

Hygiene

- We seek information from the current UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and NHS guidance to ensure that we keep up-to-date with the latest recommendations.
- Our daily routines encourage the children to learn about personal hygiene, this includes the use of our daily toothbrushing scheme which all children in Nursery and Reception participate in.
- We have a daily cleaning routine for the setting (updated since COVID-19), which includes the classrooms, kitchen, toilets and nappy changing areas. Children do not have unsupervised access to the kitchen.

- We have a schedule for cleaning resources and equipment, dressing-up clothes and furnishings. (Updated since COVID-19)
- The toilet area has a high standard of hygiene, including hand washing and drying facilities and disposal facilities for nappies.
- We implement good hygiene practices by: (Updated since COVID-19)
- cleaning tables between activities;
- cleaning and checking toilets regularly;
- wearing protective clothing - such as aprons and disposable gloves - as appropriate;
- providing sets of clean clothes;
- providing tissues and wipes

Risk assessment and daily checks

Daily health and safety checks are completed across Nursery and Reception, including indoor and outdoor provision. Written risk assessments are maintained for Reception (RADF099) and Nursery (RADF100). Staff implement identified control measures and report hazards promptly. Assessments are reviewed at least annually and sooner following significant incidents, changes to provision or newly identified risks. Individual risk assessments are completed where necessary, including for children with SEND or medical needs.

Food safety, allergies and safe eating

- Before admission, the school gathers information about dietary needs, allergies and relevant health conditions, keeps it updated and shares it with appropriate staff. Food and drink are prepared and served hygienically, with choking hazards reduced through suitable preparation, seating and active supervision. Staff are familiar with individual allergy and healthcare plans and emergency procedures. Fresh drinking water is available. The school follows its food safety, medical and first aid arrangements and the detailed controls in RADF099. The school follows statutory paediatric first aid requirements and makes arrangements for a paediatric first aider to be present in the room while children eat, in line with the EYFS framework's safer-eating guidance. Staff actively supervise eating and follow individual allergy, choking and healthcare procedures.

Children's screen use

- The school has regard to current DfE guidance on screen use in early years. Any screen use is limited, purposeful, age-appropriate and supervised, with adults supporting learning rather than relying on passive viewing. Staff consider online safety, suitability of content, children's images and videos, and risks arising from AI-enabled or algorithm-driven services. Screen use does not displace active play, talk, relationships or physical activity; reasonable adjustments are made for individual needs.

Dogs on the premises

- Dean Field operates a no-dogs-on-site rule for school premises, subject to any legally required access arrangements, including assistance dogs. Dogs prohibited under the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, including XL Bully types, must not be brought into areas where EYFS provision operates, including for visits or events, even where an exemption certificate is held. Any concerns are escalated promptly to school leaders.

Safer Sleep Arrangements

- Children in Nursery and Reception are not routinely expected to sleep during the school day. Where a child needs to sleep, staff arrange a safe, suitable individual sleeping space, considering age, health and any medical advice. Staff ensure appropriate positioning, bedding and temperature, keep the child's head and face uncovered, and undertake frequent documented checks as appropriate. Staff must be able to see or hear sleeping children at all times. Arrangements will be reassessed before admitting younger children or where individual needs change.

Intimate care and inclusion

- Children who need toileting or intimate care are treated with dignity, privacy and sensitivity, with appropriate hygiene and safeguarding arrangements. Individual care plans and reasonable adjustments are agreed where needed with parents, the SENCO and relevant professionals. Staff follow the separate Intimate Care Policy and individual healthcare plans. Staff access SEND training through whole-school CPD, Local Authority support and relevant external professionals.

Safeguarding, behaviour and physical intervention

- The school's safeguarding, behaviour and managing allegations policies apply throughout EYFS. Staff maintain effective supervision, follow safe arrival and collection procedures and report safeguarding concerns without delay. Corporal punishment is never used or threatened. Any necessary physical intervention is managed in line with statutory restrictions and school procedures, recorded and communicated to parents as required.

Emergency arrangements and reporting

- Staff follow the school's fire, evacuation, lockdown, accident, first aid, missing child and emergency procedures. Exit routes and emergency arrangements are checked and adapted for children with SEND or medical needs where necessary. Accidents and significant incidents are recorded, communicated and notified to relevant bodies when required. Staff and visitors are briefed on relevant procedures.

Smoking and vaping

- Smoking and vaping are prohibited on school premises. Staff, students and volunteers must not smoke or vape during off-site activities when children are present or about to be present.

Related policies and review

- This policy should be read alongside the whole-school Health and Safety, Safeguarding and Child Protection, First Aid and Medical, SEND, Intimate Care, Behaviour, Online Safety and Educational Visits policies, together with the Reception Risk Assessment (RADF099), Nursery Risk Assessment (RADF100) and any individual risk assessments.

Activities, resources and repairs

- Before purchase or loan, we check equipment and resources to ensure that they are safe for the ages and stages of the children currently attending the setting.
- We keep a full inventory of all items in the setting for audit and insurance purposes (see DEdwards).
- The layout of our play equipment allows adults and children to move safely and freely between activities.
- All of our equipment is regularly checked for cleanliness and safety, and any dangerous items are repaired or discarded.
- We make safe and separate from general use any areas that are unsafe because of repair is needed.
- All of our materials, including paint and glue, are non-toxic.
- We ensure that sand/water/playdough/paint/glue/messy or sensory play is clean and suitable for children's play.
- Physical play is constantly supervised.
- We teach children to handle and store tools safely.
- Children learn about health, safety and personal hygiene through the activities we provide and the routines we follow. The children contribute in the risk assessment with child's voice.
- Any faulty equipment is removed from use and is repaired. If it cannot be repaired it is discarded. Large pieces of equipment are discarded only with the consent of the SLT.

Jewellery and accessories

- Our staff do not wear jewellery or fashion accessories, such as large belts or high heels, that may pose a danger to themselves or the children.
- Parents must ensure that any jewellery worn by children poses no danger; particularly earrings which may get pulled, bracelets which can get caught when climbing or necklaces that may pose a risk of strangulation.
- We ensure that hair accessories are removed before children sleep or rest.

Safety of adults

- We ensure that adults are provided with guidance about the safe storage, movement, lifting and erection of large pieces of equipment.
- We provide safe equipment for adults to use when they need to reach up to store equipment or to change light bulbs.
- We ensure that all warning signs are clear and in appropriate languages.
- We ensure that adults do not remain in the building on their own or attend meetings with outside visitors on their own.
- We record the sickness of staff and their involvement in accidents. The records are reviewed termly to identify any issues that need to be addressed.