

Disclaimer: Activities with children must always be risk assessed, including for allergies or choking. Children must always have adequate supervision. Resources and materials must always be appropriate for children's age and stage of development.

Fire safety checks

The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2022) states that,

'Providers must comply with requirements of health and safety legislation (including fire safety and hygiene requirements).'

Fire safety checks form an extremely important part of this compliance and are essential in ensuring your building, policies and procedures keep everyone safe.

Here are some top tips to support you with fire safety checks.



Top tips

- Carry out a fire safety risk assessment and keep it up to date. Using the same approach as health and safety risk assessments, identify any hazards and control measures and any staff responsibilities. Review and update your fire safety risk assessment regularly
- Contact your local fire department to see if they offer support with fire safety checks
- Check your fire evacuation policy, procedure and contingency plan to ensure they are up to date and in line with current practice and legislation
- Ensure staff receive appropriate training on procedures they need to follow in the event of a fire or fire alarm
- Practice fire drills regularly with staff and children. Try holding them at different times of day, during the holidays or when key staff are absent
- Have appropriate fire-fighting equipment such as fire alarms, smoke alarms, water and CO₂ fire extinguishers and a fire blanket and ensure these are tested and serviced in line with current legislation and manufacturer's instructions
- Ensure fire exits and escape routes are clearly marked and unobstructed at all times. Regularly check rarely used fire exits open easily
- Ensure good housekeeping at all times to minimise the risk associated with fire. For example, empty waste paper bins regularly and keep sources of ignition and flammable substances apart, such as storing aerosols in metal cupboards.

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For more information of fire safety, visit the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) fire safety page <https://www.hse.gov.uk/toolbox/fire.htm>

NDNA products to support you with this

- [Fire Safety Roles & Responsibilities – policy](#)

Find more resources at www.ndna.org.uk/hub/myndna