

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.

Top tips: Winter closure – safety considerations

Christmas and New Year provide time for rest and relaxation as settings close down for the annual celebration.

Before leaving an empty property, it is important to consider how you can minimise risks and keep the building and contents safe.

1. Walk around the building/s and close all windows and internal doors. Check fire doors are closed
2. Unplug and switch off all appliances
3. Remove perishables from fridges/freezers and ensure they remain plugged in
4. Empty internal bins and ensure external bins are away from the property (leave bins out for collection, if appropriate)
5. Put valuables in a safe or locked drawer, ensuring they are out of sight to passers-by - this could include tablets, equipment, cash boxes, nursery phone, etc.
6. Adjust your heating thermometer to a low heat to avoid water pipes freezing
7. Check all internal taps are turned off, lag external taps to prevent freezing
8. Lock and secure all external entry points, securing sheds and garden gates with locks or padlocks
9. Ensure motion detector lights, CCTV, etc. are switched on
10. Set the alarm system as you leave (if you have one).



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