



Safety Checks

April 2025

This policy is to be used alongside YMCA Trinity Group's Health and Safety Policy.

At YMCA Childcare we take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children, staff and others on the premises including carrying out safety checks on a regular basis in accordance with the timescales set out in the nursery checklists table at the end of this policy.

These include daily safety checks of the premises, indoors and outdoors, and all equipment and resources before the children access any of the areas. The checks are recorded and show any issues and solutions.

All staff are trained in health and safety to raise awareness. Staff know how to recognise potential hazards, including near misses in the childcare environment and monitor safety at all times.

Risk assessments (refer to the Overall approach to risk assessments policy)

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

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

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

Electrical equipment

Electrical equipment is tested annually by YMCA Trinity Groups Facilities and maintenance team.

- 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





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- We take a risk-based approach, considering the type of equipment and what it is being used for, to make a decision whether to have certain electrical items Portable appliance testing (PAT) tested (as per HSE guidance)

Dangerous substances

All dangerous substances including chemicals are kept in locked areas out of children's reach. All substances are kept in their original containers with their original labels attached. Safety data sheets (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH)) and risk assessments are 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 bottled or canned drinks, sweets or crisps are to be kept or consumed in the nursery rooms or outside.

Transport and outings

YMCA Childcare 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, ensure that they are suitable at all times and recorded on the appropriate sheet. There is a thermometer in each room to ensure this is monitored
- Staff must always be aware of the dangers of babies and young children being too warm or too cold
- Temperatures should not fall below 18°C in the baby rooms and 16°C in all other areas





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- Where fans are being used to cool rooms, great care must be taken with regard to their positioning.

Water supplies

- A fresh water 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.

This policy was reviewed on:	Reviewed by:	Date for next review:
24.04.2025	A.Spence	23.04.2026
Signed on behalf of YMCA Trinity Group:	K.Streater	

