

Fernheath Play

17: Health, Illness and Emergency

Fernheath Play is committed to encouraging and promoting good health and to dealing efficiently and effectively with illnesses and emergencies that may arise while children are in our care.

First Aid

Under duties set out in the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981, Fernheath Play recognises its responsibilities in providing adequate and appropriate equipment, facilities and personnel to enable suitable first aid to be given at the centre.

The centre has a designated member of staff responsible for First Aid. This person has an up to date First Aid certificate. They are responsible for maintaining the correct contents of all First Aid boxes and administering basic First Aid when necessary and appropriate.

The centre manager and the designated member of staff will ensure that there will always be at least one member of staff who has a current paediatric first aid certificate available at all times during sessions at the club. The centre manager will be responsible for enabling the members of staff concerned to receive adequate first aid training. First Aid training will have met the criteria set out by the DfE.

The First Aid box will be regularly checked to ensure its contents are up to date, in good condition and fulfil the criteria set out in the Health and Safety (First Aid) Regulations 1981.

The box should contain:

- A card or leaflet giving general guidance
- Sterile triangular bandages
- Adhesive plasters
- A sterile eye pad with attachment
- Cotton wool
- Crepe bandages
- A sterile gauze
- Micropore tape
- Sterile cornering for serious wounds
- Individually wrapped assorted dressings
- Waterproof disposable gloves
- A disposable bag for soiled material

The location of the First Aid box, and the names of any other qualified first-aiders, will be clearly displayed around the centre's premises.

A First Aid box will be taken on all off site visits or outings. This is the responsibility of the designated First Aider, or where this is not possible, the centre manager.

In the Event of a Major Accident, Incident or Illness

Fernheath Play requests that parents/carers complete and sign the Emergency Medical Treatment Form, enabling the manager or any member of staff so empowered, to give

permission for emergency medical treatment for their child in the event of a major accident, incident or illness occurring at the centre.

In the event of such an event, the following procedures will apply:

- In the first instance, the First Aider will be notified and take responsibility for deciding upon the appropriate action.
- The First Aider will assess the situation and decide whether the child needs to go straight to hospital or whether they can safely wait for their parent/carer to arrive.
- If the child needs to go straight to hospital, an ambulance will be called. The parent/carer will also be contacted. A member of staff will accompany the child to the hospital and will consent to medical treatment being given, so long as the Emergency Medical Treatment Form has been completed and signed.
- Children's membership details will be taken to hospital with the child.
- If the child does not need to go straight to hospital but their condition means they should go home, the parent/carer will be contacted and asked to collect their child. In the meantime, the child will be made as comfortable as possible and be kept under close supervision (from this point on, the provisions of Fernheath's Infectious and Communicable Diseases policy will govern the child's return to the centre).
- Parents/carers will be made fully aware of the details of any incidents involving their child's health and safety, and any actions taken by Fernheath and its staff.
- All such accidents or incidents will be recorded in detail and logged in the Incident Record Book or the Accident Record Book. Parents/carers will be asked to sign in the relevant section of the book to acknowledge the incident or accident and any action taken by the centre and its staff.
- The centre manager and other relevant members of staff should consider whether the accident or incident highlights any actual or potential weaknesses in Fernheath's policies or procedures, and act accordingly, making suitable adjustments where necessary following discussion with the Trustees.

In the Event of a Minor Accident, Incident or Illness

- In the first instance, the designated First Aider will be notified and take responsibility for deciding upon any appropriate action.
- If the child does not need hospital treatment and is judged to be able to safely remain at the centre, the First Aider will remove the child from the activities and, if appropriate, treat the injury/illness themselves.
- If and when the child is feeling sufficiently better, they will be resettled back into the activities, but will be kept under close supervision for the remainder of the session.

- At the end of the session, the First Aider will fully inform the parent/carer of the incident or accident and any treatment given.
- If the injury or illness incurred is such that treatment by the First Aider is deemed inappropriate, but does not warrant hospitalisation, the parent/carer will be contacted immediately and asked to collect their child. Until the parent/carer arrives, the child will be kept under close supervision and as comfortable as possible (from this point on, the provisions of the Fernheath's Infectious and Communicable Diseases policy will govern the child's return to the centre).
- All such accidents and incidents will be recorded in detail and logged in the Incident Record Book or the Accident Record Book and parents/carers should sign to acknowledge the incident and any action taken.
- The centre manager and any other relevant staff will consider whether the accident or incident highlighted any actual or potential weaknesses in the club's policies or procedures, and make suitable adjustments if necessary in discussion with the Trustees.

Medication

In circumstances where the designated First-Aider is absent, the centre manager will assume all responsibilities, or nominate an appropriately trained replacement.

- Wherever possible, children who are prescribed medication should receive their doses at home. If it is necessary for medication to be taken during sessions at the centre, children should be encouraged to take personal responsibility for this, where this is appropriate. Parents/carers and staff should discuss such situations at the earliest possible opportunity and decide together on the best course of action.
- Staff may only administer medication to the child if it is prescribed by a GP and if the request to do so is from the child's parent or carer and is given in writing at the start of a session, stating frequency and dosage. Parents/carers can make such a request by completing and signing the Administering Medication Form.
- Staff have the right to decline such a request from a parent/carer if they are in any way uncomfortable with this. The centre is likely to decline a request from parents/carers to administer medication where this involves technical knowledge or training.

The procedure for administering medication at the club is as follows:

Medication will never be given without the prior written request of the parent/carer and a written and signed instruction from the child's GP, including frequency, dosage, any potential side effects and any other pertinent information (see Administering Medication Form).

Where the administration of prescription medicine requires technical/medical knowledge, individual training will be provided for staff from a qualified health professional. The training will be specific to the individual child. The staff will also be responsible for ensuring that:

- Prior consent is arranged.

- All necessary details are recorded.
- That the medication is properly labelled and safely stored during the session.
- Another member of staff acts as a witness to ensure that the correct dosage is given.
- Parents/carers sign in the Medication Record Book to acknowledge that the medication has been given.

If for any reason a child refuses to take their medication, staff will not attempt to force them to do so against their wishes. If and when such a situation occurs, the centre Manager and the child's parent/carer will be notified, and the incident recorded in the Medication Record Book.

Staff will not administer 'over the counter' medication, only that prescribed by the child's GP.

Where children carry their own medication (asthma pumps or insulin for example), the centre recommends that staff hold onto the medication until it is required. This is to minimise possible loss of medication and to ensure the safety of other children. Inhalers should always be labelled with the child's name.

If there is any change in the type of medication – whether regarding dosage or other changes to the information given on the Administering Medication Form – a new form must be completed.

Full details of all medication administered at the centre, along with all Administering Medication Forms, will be recorded and stored in the Medication Record Book.

Sun Protection

The centre manager and staff understand the dangers posed to children and themselves by over exposure to the sun.

In hot weather, parents/carers are encouraged to provide sunscreen for their children. A store of sun protection will also be kept on the premises. Children will also be encouraged to wear a hat when playing outside in the sun.

When necessary, staff may apply sunscreen to children who cannot do so for themselves, where prior permission has been given by the parent/carer on the Admissions Form. In hot weather, staff will encourage children to drink water frequently. Staff will also ensure that shady areas out of the sun are always available to children when playing outside.

Closing of Fernheath in an emergency

In very exceptional circumstances, the centre may need to be closed at very short notice due to an unexpected emergency. Such incidents could include:

- Serious weather conditions (combined with heating system failure).
- Burst water pipes.

- Discovery of dangerous structural damage.
- Fire or bomb scare/explosion.
- Death of a member of staff.
- Serious assault on a staff member by the public.
- Serious accident or illness.

In such circumstances, the centre manager and staff will ensure that all steps are taken to keep both the children and themselves safe. All staff and children will assemble at the pre-arranged venue, where a register will be taken.

Steps will then be taken to inform parents/carers and to take the necessary actions in relation to the cause of the closure. All children will be supervised until they are safely collected.

Accepted and approved by Management Committee
Date.....
Signed by.....