

Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.

Section 1. Early career educator



You must know

When you become an educator, it's important to understand why we need to have plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies.

You're responsible for looking after a place where young people come, and you need to think about the fire drills you did at school– it's similar, If we, as educators, don't practice and understand what to do in emergencies like fires or other dangerous situations, things could get really messy. Without clear plans, we might struggle to guide kids and teens to safety during these events.

There's another important part to this. Making sure the place is safe and follows safety rules is a big deal. If we don't follow these rules, it could lead to serious trouble. We might even get into legal problems, and most importantly, the safety of the kids and teens we're responsible for could be at risk. It's kind of like not following traffic rules – it can lead to accidents.

Worst-case scenario? If we ignore these important things, bad things could happen. Children or even visitors might get hurt. Besides the immediate problems, not caring about these basic rules could lead to legal issues and make your service look bad. People might think we don't take safety seriously, which is not what we want as teachers who care about our students' well-being.



You must practice

It's important that we have plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.

Practice Examples to Address Safety and Emergency Preparedness:

1. Emergency Drills with Clear Plans:

Organise regular emergency drills for the entire staff. Practice what to do during various emergencies like fires or accidents. Have clear evacuation plans for each scenario. This helps everyone understand their roles and how to guide kids and teens to safety. After each drill, gather feedback and improve the plans based on everyone's input.

2. Safety Check Days:

Designate specific days to check safety measures around the service. Ensure fire extinguishers, alarms, and emergency exits are working properly. Use these days to remind everyone about the importance of following safety rules and why they matter. This helps prevent potential problems and keeps the place safe for everyone.

3. Safety Training Workshops:

Hold workshops where experts teach the staff about safety rules and emergency protocols. Learn how to use fire extinguishers, first aid kits, and other emergency equipment correctly. This training boosts everyone's confidence and ensures they know what to do in critical situations.

4. Mock Emergency Scenarios:

Create pretend emergency situations and ask staff to respond using the practiced plans. This lets everyone test their knowledge and helps uncover any areas that need improvement. Doing this prepares everyone for real emergencies and boosts their ability to handle them confidently.

5. Safety Awareness Campaigns:

Run campaigns to raise awareness about safety among children, and staff. Use posters, discussions, and interactive activities to emphasise the importance of following safety rules. This not only educates everyone but also helps foster a culture of safety consciousness.

Week 27, 28 August to 1 September 2023 – 2.2.2 Incident and Emergency Management

After reading these points, which one(s) do you think you doing well? Describe your practice in detail.

After reading these points, which one(s) do you think you need to work on? Describe how you could improve your practice.

Things you can talk about with children to help keep everything safe

"You know how superheroes have plans to save the day? Well, we have special plans too, just in case something unexpected happens. We talk to people who know a lot about safety, and together we make sure we know what to do. It's like having a plan to keep everyone safe!"

"Think of our emergency plans as our 'just-in-case' plans. It's like having a map that shows us how to be safe if something unusual happens. We practice these plans so that if we ever need to use them, we're ready, like superheroes with their capes on!"

"Imagine we're all part of a team, and our team's mission is to keep everyone safe. So, we work with smart people who help us make plans for different situations. Then, we practice these plans to make sure we know what to do. It's like practicing a game so we can win at safety!"

"Have you ever seen firefighters practicing how to put out fires? Well, we do something similar here. We practice how to stay safe in different situations. We learn the steps, like remembering where the exits are, so we're ready if something unusual happens."

"Safety is like a code – we all know how to keep each other safe. We make plans with experts, and we practice these plans, so we're prepared. It's like practicing a special dance, but instead of dancing, we're learning how to be safe together!"