

Premises, furniture and equipment are safe, clean and well maintained

Section 1. Early career educator



You must know

As an educator, it's really important that buildings, furniture and equipment are safe, clean and well maintained

What Could Go Wrong If Educators Don't Do These Things?

Health Hazards: Not cleaning properly can make germs and bacteria build up, which can make both children and staff get sick. We clean toys, surfaces, and shared things regularly with safe cleaning products to keep everyone healthy.

Injury Risks: If things like equipment or the building are not looked after well, they can become dangerous. Loose parts, sharp edges, or broken things can hurt children or staff. So, we check everything often and fix or replace anything that's not safe.

Spread of Illness: Not cleaning well can make illnesses spread easily, making everyone feel unwell. So, we teach children to stay clean and healthy and ask sick children to stay home until they're better. We also clean things more when illnesses are going around.

Non-compliance: Not keeping the place clean and safe can get us into trouble with the rules. We follow all the rules and make sure everything is well-documented to show we're doing things right.

Decline in Learning Environment: A messy place can make it hard for children to learn and play. So, we keep things tidy and interesting to help children learn better.

Decreased Staff Morale: If our workplace is not safe or clean, staff can feel unhappy and not enjoy their job. We talk to our staff about their concerns and give them the training and support they need.

Parental Concerns: Parents worry about their children's safety. If they see that things are not clean or well-maintained, they might not be happy with the service. So, we communicate with parents and address their worries to keep everyone satisfied.

Negative Reputation: If we don't keep the place clean and safe, people won't want to come here. We want to have a good reputation so that families and staff like being here. So, we listen to feedback, improve, and show that we're dedicated to being a great place for everyone.



You must practice

It's important to make sure that building, furniture and equipment are safe, clean and well maintained

To help with the problems mentioned earlier on the left side, let's take a look at some real-life examples for guidance.

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Decreased Staff Morale:

If our workplace is not safe or clean, staff can feel unhappy and not enjoy their job. We talk to our staff

Week 35, 6 to 10 November 2023 – 3.1.2 Upkeep

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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.

Scripts for discussing these issues with management:

Health Hazards: "I suggest we improve our cleaning practices to prevent illnesses among children and staff. Regular cleaning of high-touch surfaces and shared items with child-safe products, along with hygiene reminders, can help."

Injury Risks: "To avoid accidents, let's conduct regular safety checks and ensure damaged equipment is promptly repaired or replaced. Staff training on safety protocols is also vital."

Spread of Illness: "We can reduce illness spread by educating children on hygiene, enforcing illness exclusion policies, and increasing cleaning during outbreaks."

Decline in Learning Environment: "To enhance learning, we should keep spaces tidy and engaging by rotating and refreshing materials."

Decreased Staff Morale: "Staff morale improves with a safe, clean workplace. Open communication, training, and support are key."

Parental Concerns: "Transparent communication and prompt addressing of parent concerns about cleanliness and maintenance are crucial."

Negative Reputation: "We must actively seek feedback, make improvements, and showcase our dedication to cleanliness and safety for a positive reputation."

Week 35, 6 to 10 November 2023 – 3.1.2 Upkeep