



Physical Environment

PopSOC is committed to providing children with a stimulating and safe environment. We will do all we can to make our premises welcoming and friendly to children, their parents/carers and any other visitors.

PopSOC's premises are safe, secure and adequately spacious for its purpose. The environment and atmosphere of PopSOC is welcoming to children and parents and offers access to the necessary facilities for a broad and varied programme of activities.

PopSOC is committed to taking every possible step to ensure that all children have equal access to facilities, activities and play opportunities, including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (for further details see Special Needs Policy).

PopSOC's premises complies with all the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and all other relevant regulations and guidance.

The Manager is responsible for ensuring that PopSOC's premises are clean, well lit, adequately ventilated and maintained at an appropriate temperature. Daily health and safety checks are carried out in accordance with the Risk Assessment Policy, to ensure that the facilities are maintained in a suitable state of repair and decoration.

During opening hours, the premises are used by and solely available to the club, its staff and the children. PopSOC will do all it can to maintain an open room layout, allowing children to choose from a variety of play opportunities. All children will have adequate space to play and interact freely (a minimum of 2.3 square metres' space per child).

There is adequate space for storing all the club's equipment safely and securely.

Staff will ensure that there is one toilet and one washbasin with hot and cold running water available for every 10 children, ensuring an adequate balance between male and female facilities. There is also a toilet designed for disabled access.

No child will be left unsupervised in the kitchen area.

Members of staff will have access to a telephone on the club's premises at all times.

Outdoor Play

Any outdoor play will take place in safe, secure and well-supervised spaces. Before any outdoor activities commence, a safety check and risk assessment will take place. Outdoor play areas will be well-maintained and, as much as possible, will be free from holes, bumps or uneven surface areas. Ponds, drains, pools or any unnatural water will be made safe or inaccessible to children.

In the event of snow or ice on external walkways, staff will ensure that they are regularly cleared and kept safe.

Staff will ensure there is always food available for the children. They will also ensure there is a regular supply of water available to children at all times, especially in hot conditions. In such circumstances staff will also ensure that children are adequately protected from the sun, according to the provisions set out in the Health, Illness & Emergency Policy.

Policy written October 2008

Policy agreed