

11: Equipment

Kidz Enterprise is committed to providing children with access to a wide range of equipment that stimulates enjoyment, learning and development, both indoors and outdoors.

All furniture, toys and equipment are of suitable design, kept clean, well maintained and in good repair and in accordance with BS EN safety standards or the Toys (Safety) Regulations (1995) where applicable.

Equipment will be properly maintained and inspected in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. All electrical toys and equipment are subject to PAT (Portable Appliance Testing), and that relevant staff are trained on the correct use of computers and other IT equipment.

Levels of staff supervision will be sufficient to ensure that the safety of children is assured, and set according to the type of equipment being used, along with the ages and number of children involved in a given activity.

All equipment and resources will be selected with care, and risk assessments carried out before new toys and equipment are purchased, according to the principles of the Risk Assessment policy.

Kidz Enterprise has equipment and resources suitable for all children currently in attendance, including those with special educational needs, physical disabilities and for any child whose first language is not English.

Accessible storage is provided to promote independence and freedom of choice.

Kidz Enterprise's equipment and resources¹ reflects positive images with regard to culture, ethnicity, gender, and disability.

Resources will, whenever possible, show men and women in a variety of roles and jobs, and people with different abilities being both active and creative. Examples of everyday life will portray people from a variety of family groupings and cultural backgrounds in a range of non-stereotypical roles.

Kidz Enterprise provides a wide selection of books that are regularly updated, as financial resources allow. The selection will always include reference books, dual language books and a range of age-appropriate formats. Staff are encouraged to select books that reflect a multicultural society, challenge stereotypes, and which meet the educational needs of the children.

Outside a club's opening hours, all equipment will be kept in a suitable and secure location; safe from unauthorised access or use. When discovered, defective or broken equipment will be taken out of use and stored in a safe place before being disposed of. Flammable equipment will be stored in a safe location away from sources of heat and/or naked flames.

There will be a named member of staff with responsibility for planning and reviewing the stock of equipment every three months, and annually updating Kidz Enterprise's Inventory Record. The Inventory Record must include all electrical items, all items valued at £50 or more and any item not otherwise included that is considered to be at high risk of theft.

The Inventory Record will be kept on Kidz Enterprise's records, and be updated whenever a new item is added or when an old item is removed from use.

¹ Equipment refers to such things as books and toys while Resources could include posters, audio/video equipment, pens and papers.

The manager, or designated member of staff, will keep a formal record of any item of equipment loaned to a member of staff, a voluntary organisation or a parent/carer to ensure that it is returned on time and in a good state.

Updated By: Derek Beesley (Director of Childcare) Date: 6th March 2016

Signature: *D. Beesley*

