



Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Health, Safety & Welfare Policy

1. Policy Statement

At the British School of Tenerife EYFS provision, we are committed to ensuring that all children learn and develop in a safe, secure, healthy and nurturing environment. The welfare of the child is paramount at all times.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's:

- Safeguarding & Child Protection Policy
- Whole School Health & Safety Policy
- First Aid Policy
- Intimate Care Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Online Safety Policy
- Safer Recruitment Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct
- Medicines Policy
- Allergy Policy
- Illness Policy
- Risk Assessment Procedures

All EYFS staff have a statutory duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in line with the EYFS Statutory Framework.

2. Safeguarding and Supervision in EYFS

All EYFS staff are responsible for safeguarding children at all times.

- Children are supervised at all times, indoors and outdoors
- Appropriate adult-to-child ratios are maintained at all times in line with Spanish regulations
- Children are never left unsupervised
- Staff remain vigilant to signs of harm, neglect or distress
- Any concern is immediately reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Outdoor learning is fully supervised and risk assessed daily

All staff working within EYFS must follow the school's safeguarding procedures, professional conduct expectations and safer working practices.

3. Safe Environment and Risk Assessment

The EYFS environment is regularly checked to ensure it is safe and suitable for young children.

Staff will:

- Carry out daily risk assessment checks of indoor and outdoor areas
- Remove or report hazards immediately
- Ensure equipment is age-appropriate and safe
- Supervise the use of climbing, physical and outdoor equipment
- Ensure classrooms and outdoor areas are secure at all times
- Monitor gates, doors and entry systems carefully
- Ensure cleaning products and hazardous materials are stored securely out of reach of children

Risk assessments are reviewed regularly and updated following any incident, accident or environmental change.

Separate risk assessments are completed where required, including:

- Meal time risk assessments
- Outdoor learning risk assessments
- Broken bone / injury risk assessments
- Educational visit risk assessments
- Individual medical or SEND risk assessments

4. Intimate Care, Toileting and Hygiene

EYFS staff support children with personal care in a dignified and respectful manner.

This includes:

- Nappy changing
- Toilet training support
- Cleaning and washing children where necessary
- Managing toileting accidents
- Supporting children with dressing and hygiene

All staff must:

- Follow the Intimate Care Policy at all times
- Wear appropriate protective equipment such as gloves
- Maintain the child's dignity, privacy and emotional wellbeing
- Follow handwashing and hygiene procedures
- Clean changing areas appropriately after use
- Report any safeguarding concerns immediately to the DSL

Where possible, staff should ensure visibility or awareness of another adult when carrying out intimate care procedures.

5. Handwashing and Infection Control

Good hygiene procedures are essential in reducing the spread of illness and infection.

Staff and children are expected to wash hands:

- Before eating or handling food

- After using the toilet or nappy changing
- After outdoor play
- After coughing, sneezing or contact with bodily fluids
- After handling animals or messy play materials

Staff will:

- Model good hygiene practices
- Follow infection control procedures
- Clean and disinfect surfaces regularly
- Dispose of bodily fluids safely
- Use gloves and protective equipment where appropriate

Children who are unwell or infectious may be excluded in line with the Illness Policy.

6. Safe Sleep (EYFS)

Where children sleep or rest:

- Children are supervised at all times during sleep
- Safe sleeping positions are followed
- Sleep environments are clean, safe and appropriately ventilated
- Sleep equipment is checked regularly
- Children are never left alone while sleeping
- Staff monitor sleeping children regularly throughout rest periods

7. First Aid, Illness and Medication

EYFS has trained first aid staff available at all times.

Staff will:

- Respond promptly to accidents or illness
- Record all accidents and incidents appropriately
- Inform parents of accidents, injuries or medical concerns
- Report head injuries immediately to parents
- Follow bump to the head procedures
- Contact emergency services where necessary

Medication is not routinely administered by school staff, including medicines for chronic conditions or over-the-counter medication.

Parents are responsible for administering medication whenever possible.

Emergency medication, such as inhalers or EpiPens, will only be supported in accordance with the Early Years Medicines Policy, with:

- Written parental consent
- A completed healthcare plan
- Appropriate medical documentation

- Relevant staff training

Children who are unwell will remain supervised and comfortable until collected by parents or emergency contacts.

8. Food, Drink and Allergies

EYFS ensures safe and hygienic food practices.

Staff will:

- Supervise all snack and mealtimes
- Ensure children wash hands before eating
- Follow allergy care plans strictly
- Prevent food sharing where allergies exist
- Maintain safe eating environments
- Monitor choking risks and appropriate food preparation

Allergy information is securely displayed and shared with relevant staff members.

Children must always have access to drinking water throughout the day.

9. Behaviour and Emotional Wellbeing

Behaviour in EYFS is managed through positive relationships, emotional support and developmentally appropriate expectations.

We aim to:

- Promote emotional regulation and resilience
- Support children in developing friendships and social skills
- Use calm, consistent and positive behaviour strategies
- Help children understand boundaries and routines
- Support children in resolving conflicts appropriately
- Never use punitive, humiliating or shaming approaches

Staff recognise that behaviours such as biting, hitting, withdrawal or distress may communicate unmet emotional or developmental needs.

Children are supported according to their age and stage of development.

10. Anti-Bullying and Inclusion

Although very young children are still developing social understanding, EYFS staff take all incidents of repeated unkind behaviour seriously.

Staff will:

- Promote kindness, respect and inclusion

- Support children in understanding feelings and empathy
- Intervene appropriately in incidents of unkind behaviour
- Work closely with parents where concerns arise
- Support children who may be vulnerable or isolated

Discriminatory or prejudicial behaviour is not tolerated.

British values, including mutual respect, tolerance and kindness, are promoted through daily practice and the EYFS curriculum.

11. Safeguarding and Child Protection

All EYFS staff must:

- Follow the school Safeguarding Policy at all times
- Report all concerns immediately to the DSL
- Record concerns factually and accurately
- Understand signs of abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Maintain professional boundaries at all times
- Follow whistleblowing procedures where necessary

Children are taught in a safe environment where their welfare is always prioritised.

12. Mobile Phones, Cameras and ICT

To protect children:

- Personal mobile phones must not be used in EYFS areas
- Smart watches must not be used to photograph or record children
- Photographs are only taken on school-approved devices
- Images are stored securely and used in line with GDPR
- Consent is required for all photographic use
- Devices are never used in toileting or intimate care areas

Please also refer to the Early Years Mobile Phone Policy and Online Safety Policy.

13. Outdoor Learning and Physical Safety

Outdoor learning is an essential part of the EYFS curriculum.

Staff ensure:

- Continuous supervision outdoors
- Safe use of equipment
- Daily safety checks of outdoor spaces
- Appropriate clothing for weather conditions
- Safe movement between indoor and outdoor areas
- Sun safety procedures are followed
- Children remain hydrated in warm weather

Outdoor activities are adapted according to weather conditions and risk assessments.

14. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Children with SEND are fully included and supported within EYFS.

Staff recognise that:

- Some children may be more vulnerable to harm or misunderstanding
- Behaviour may be a form of communication
- Additional supervision or support may be required
- Communication barriers must be actively addressed
- Individual healthcare or behaviour plans may be necessary

Staff work closely with parents and outside professionals to ensure children's needs are met safely and appropriately.

15. Attendance, Arrival and Collection Procedures

Children's attendance and wellbeing are monitored carefully.

Staff will:

- Record attendance daily
- Follow up unexplained absences
- Ensure children are only collected by authorised adults
- Follow the Missing Child Procedure if necessary
- Maintain secure handover procedures at drop-off and collection times

Children will never be released to unauthorised individuals.

16. Emergencies and Evacuation

EYFS staff follow all school emergency procedures.

- Evacuation procedures are practised regularly
- Staff are aware of emergency exits and assembly points
- Registers are taken immediately in all emergencies
- Children are supported calmly during drills and real emergencies
- Emergency contact information is accessible at all times

Separate fire safety and emergency procedures are followed in line with whole school policy.

17. Staff Training and Professional Conduct

All EYFS staff receive appropriate safeguarding, health and safety and first aid training.

Staff are expected to:

- Maintain professional boundaries
- Follow the Staff Code of Conduct
- Attend mandatory safeguarding and health & safety training
- Understand EYFS safeguarding responsibilities
- Follow confidentiality and GDPR procedures
- Report concerns promptly and appropriately

All staff share responsibility for maintaining a safe and nurturing environment.

Written by:	Jenni Garnett		
Agreed Date:	October 2025		
Board of Governors			
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Academic Director:			
	Print Name:	Signed:	Date:
Review Date:	October 2026		