Staff behaviour & Staff medication

Safe Hands After School Club

Staff Behaviour

Safe hands expect all members of staff to follow our Staff Behaviour Policy, which sets clear guidance on the standards of behaviour required from our staff and volunteers. The guidance aims to encourage staff to meet the highest possible standards of conduct. Club staff is in a position of trust and influence as role models for the children in their care, and as such must demonstrate behaviour that sets a good example to all users of the setting.

Club staffs also have a responsibility to maintain their reputation and the reputation of the Club, both during and outside of working hours.

Dress Code

Whilst working at Safe Hands staff will need to help to set up and pack away the setting, prepare food, facilitate craft activities and engage in physical activities with the children. The clothing and footwear worn should be chosen accordingly, taking into account comfort, health and safety, and practicality. Revealing or excessively tight clothing is not acceptable. Shoes should be appropriate and comfortable, no flip flops.

Whilst on duty all staff should wear the approved Club T shirt at all times unless discussed with the duty manager. Shoes should be appropriate and comfortable, no flip flops.

Behaviour

Our staff team are ambassadors for Safe Hands and we expect them to conduct themselves professionally at all times. Staff should treat anyone attending the Club (children, parents/carers and visitors) courteously and with respect. We expect staff to value all the children as individuals and to comply with the Club’s Equalities policy at all times. Swearing and abusive behaviour are not tolerated from anyone at the Club. If any member of staff exhibits such behaviour they will be subject to the Club’s disciplinary procedures. For more details speak to your line manager.

Confidentiality and social media

Staff must not pass on any information about children attending the Club, or their parents and families, to third parties without their permission. The only exception to this rule is information sharing with specific external agencies if there is a safeguarding issue. (‘Third parties’ includes other parents, friends, other children at the Club, the press, etc.) Posting any material relating to the Club or its users on social media sites (unless expressly permitted by the Manager) is forbidden. Any staff that will breach this rule will face disciplinary action. See our Data Protection policy, Social Media policy, Safeguarding policy and Staff Disciplinary policy for more details.

Use of mobile phones and cameras

Staff personal mobile phones must keep it in the top draw of after school clubs filing cabinet during working hours. If a member of staff needs to make an urgent personal call they can use the Club phone or make a personal call from their mobile in a designated safe, private area – outside in staff carpark. If a member of staff has a family emergency or similar and needs to keep their mobile phone to hand, they must obtain prior permission from the Manager or Deputy. Staff may only use the club camera to take photographs of children at the Club, except with the express permission of the Manager. Staff must never use their personal mobile phones or cameras to take photographs at the Club during working hours. Doing so will be considered gross misconduct and may result in instant dismissal. See our Mobile Phone policy and Safeguarding policy for more information.

Smoking, alcohol and drugs

Staff are not permitted to smoke anywhere on the Club premises, including the outside play areas. Staff are not permitted to bring alcohol or illegal drugs onto the Club premises. If a member of staff arrives at work under the influence of alcohol or drugs they will be asked to leave immediately and disciplinary action will be taken. If a member of staff is taking prescription drugs which might affect their ability to function effectively, they must inform the Manager immediately. Any prescribed medication needed by a staff member whilst at the Club, must be stored safely in the Blue locked filing cabinet out of reach and sight of the children attending the Club.

Staff Medication

Staff must inform management of any information of any illness they have. Management must be made aware of any medication staff are taking and how they take it. Staff must inform management of any side effects of the medication and if the side effects are likely to affect their work with the children. Staff may be asked to leave the setting if management feel they are unfit to work. The information shared is confidential.

Gross misconduct

Staff will be dismissed without notice if they are found to have committed an act of gross misconduct. Examples of gross misconduct include, but are not restricted to:

• Child abuse

• Failing to comply with health and safety requirements or clubs policies

• Physical violence

• Ignoring a direct instruction given by the manager

• Persistent bullying, sexual or racial harassment

• Being unfit for work through alcohol or illegal drug use

• Theft, fraud or falsification of documents

• Being disqualified under the terms of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (Section 75 of the Childcare Act 2006) or the Children’s Act 1989.

The Manager will investigate the alleged incident thoroughly before any decision to dismiss is made.

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| This policy was written by: Ellis Worthy | Date: September 2023 |
| Signed by: Mel Lawlee | Review date: September 2024 |