

Changes to permissions EYFS 2014

There are a number of permissions required by the EYFS 2014 –

Photographs – while it doesn't specifically say 'ask parents permission to take photos' it does say in requirement 3.69 - *Providers must be aware of their responsibilities under the Data Protection Act (DPA) 1998.*

I explain to parents that, as part of my responsibility under the DPA, I am registered with the Information Commissioners Office as a data handler and I would like their permission to take and use photos of their child for a variety of different purposes. I tell them that the photos remain their property and are returned to them or securely destroyed when their child leaves the provision.

Sharing confidential information – I link this permission to requirement 3.69 - *Confidential information and records about children must be held securely and only accessible and available to those who have a right or professional need to see them.*

I explain to parents that I might have to share information about their child with my emergency childminder, my co-childminder, my assistant, other agencies, Ofsted and other professionals who have a right to see them. This covers me if I need to give information about their child's health and their contact information to emergency services as well.

Sharing learning and development information – I link this permission to requirement 2.5 - *Providers must have the consent of parents and / or carers to share information directly with other relevant professionals.*

I explain to parents that the EYFS requires us to work in partnership with their child's other settings and any other professionals and / or agencies which might be involved in their child's life now or in the future. I say that while I will always try and let them know in advance that I am going to share information directly with other professionals, there might be some instances (such as notifying about safeguarding concerns) when this is not possible.

This covers me if I need to speak to the child's Health Visitor because I am worried that a health or other concern related to the child is not being addressed.

Medication administration – it is a requirement of the EYFS to ask for written permission from parents before giving any medication or treatment to a child. I link the permission to EYFS requirement 3.46 - *Medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) must only be administered to a child where written permission for that particular medicine has been obtained from the child's parent and/or carer.*

I use my medication forms here – they are free to all free as well as gold members -

<http://www.childcare.co.uk/information/childminding-forms>.

Note that we do not need to ask parents for written permission to take their children on outings any more so... I have a tick list that says ...

Please TICK to confirm you are aware of the following –

- We will take your child on **routine supervised outings** (walking, on reins or in buggies). These supervised outings might be to schools, the park, soft play (where your child might play on **large equipment** eg bouncy castle, slide), toddler groups, picnics, visiting friends, community visits, cafes, feeding the ducks, nature walks etc with or without your prior knowledge.
- We might take your child on **special outings** to, for example, the zoo or farm. If we intend taking your child on a special outing we will do our best to speak to you in advance.
- We might take your child on **outings in a vehicle**. This might include outings by car, public transport, taxi, train or other vehicles. When travelling in a vehicle owned by us, it will have an MOT and childminding insurance. We will use our own restraints and car seats unless you prefer us to use yours, in which case they need to be provided on a daily basis.

I have other information on my tick list to cover areas of provision such as –

- Intimate care routines
- First aid administration and adhesive dressings (plasters)
- Learning and development records
- Making a complaint
- Hand washing with cleanser on outings
- Sleeping in buggies
- Handling animals
- No smoking on the premises
- Daily outside play
- No smacking rule
- Our safeguarding duty of care to report concerns
- HPA exclusion guidelines**

I am not asking permission for all these things – I think it would be daft to ask permission for something that I have to do – what if parents say no?! I am simply asking parents to tick to confirm they have been informed about and we have discussed these different areas of our service.

**This guidance has been updated recently –

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/350019/Guidance_on_infection_control_in_schools.pdf

If you have any questions please let me know.

Sarah Neville / www.knutsfordchildminding.co.uk