

Childcare

Health and Safety Checklist

A handy checklist to ensure your family's childcare center makes health and safety a top priority.

NEW HORIZON
PROGRAM 1
PROGRAM 2



Security

- Are all exterior entrances locked at all times to prevent unauthorized access to the classrooms?
- Does the building have a front-door keycode that only authorized staff and enrolled families have access to? Is this code changed on a regular basis?
- Are exterior doors equipped with alarms to alert staff in case of unauthorized entry or exit?
- Does the school utilize a sign-in/sign-out system for all children entering and exiting the building?
- Are there security cameras in common spaces such as classrooms, outdoor play areas, front entries, building exteriors, etc. for safety monitoring?

Physical Environment

- Do doors have fingerguards or pinch-free hinges to prevent pinched fingers?
- Are all playgrounds fenced in and secure?
- Are cleaning supplies locked away and out of children's reach at all times?

Classroom Practices

- Are all children properly supervised at all times within suitable teacher-child ratios?
- Are the classrooms clean, safe, and hazard-free?
- Does the school have a customized Emergency Preparedness Plan?
- Do teachers and children regularly practice emergency evacuation drills?
- If eligible, is the childcare center nationally accredited with best practices in health and safety?

Teachers and Staff

- Are background checks conducted for every new teacher and staff member?
- Has every teacher and staff member been trained in first aid and have an up-to-date CPR certification?
- Do teachers and staff members attend ongoing health and safety trainings to stay up to date on the best health and safety measures?

NEW HORIZON
PROGRAM 1
PROGRAM 2



Health and Wellness

- Are there illness policies and exclusion guidelines in place to prevent sicknesses from being spread?
- Does the school have an air purification or ionization system to help control allergens, kill bacteria and viruses, and prevent the spread of germs?
- Are surfaces, toys, and learning materials sanitized on a daily basis?
- Are there regular handwashing requirements in place?
- Do licensed health consultants and/or nurses conduct regular school visits to ensure compliance with the best health and safety procedures, including medication administration practices?
- Are parents alerted if contagious illnesses/diseases become present in the classroom?
- Does the school have an Eco-Healthy Child Care Certification?

Food and Allergy

- Is the school a peanut- and tree-nut-free environment, and is outside food restricted to ensure the school remains allergy-friendly?
- Are color-coded plates and cups given to children with allergies as an extra precaution to prevent allergic reactions?
- Is the daily menu planned by a food and nutrition specialist?
- Do all meals and snacks meet USDA Child and Adult Food Program guidelines?

Safe Sleep

- Is it ensured that infants will be placed on their backs during nap time?
- Are all pillows, comforters, stuffed toys, and other soft products prohibited from cribs?
- Do toddlers and preschoolers sleep on cots that are individually labeled with their names?



NEW
HORIZON
ACADEMY

ABCDEF
GHIJKLM
NOPQRST