



11: Physical Environment

Jesters is committed to providing children with a stimulating and safe environment. We will do all we can to make our premises welcoming and friendly to children, their parents/carers and any other visitors.

Jester's premises are safe, secure and adequately spacious for its purpose. The environment and atmosphere of Jesters is welcoming to children and offers access to the necessary facilities for a broad and varied programme of activities.

Jesters is committed to taking every possible step to ensure that all children have equal access to facilities, activities and play opportunities; including children with special educational needs and/or disabilities (for further details see the Equality policy).

Jester's premises comply with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 2005, the Equality Act 2010 and all other relevant regulations and guidance where appropriate.

Access to Jesters is via a ramp from the car park. There are hand rails on both sides at 2 heights ensuring it is suitable for both adults and children. At the bottom of the ramp there is a gate with a latch on the car park side to ensure children can't get into the car park without a responsible adult. At the top of the ramp there is a buzzer entry system to gain entry into Jesters. The ramp is covered in anti-slip paint and is well maintained and monitored.

Every visitor is escorted off the premises by a member of staff and the chain is put on the door immediately. Only staff are permitted to unchain and open the front door.

The Club Manager along with the Health and Safety Representative is responsible for ensuring that the Club's premises are clean, well lit, adequately ventilated and maintained at an appropriate temperature. Daily risk assessments are carried out, in accordance with the Risk Assessment policy, to ensure that the facilities are maintained in a suitable state of repair and decoration.

During the opening hours, the premises are used by and solely available to Jesters, its staff and the children, as far as this is possible.

Jesters will do all it can to maintain an open room layout, allowing children to choose from a variety of play opportunities. All children will have adequate space to play and interact freely (a minimum of 2.3 square metres' space per child).

There is adequate space for storing all the Club's equipment safely and securely.

Under normal circumstances, staff will ensure that there is one toilet and one wash basin with hot and cold water available for every 15 children, ensuring an adequate balance between male and female facilities.

No child will be allowed into the kitchen area unless fully supervised by a member of staff during cooking club.

Members of staff will have access to a Jesters telephone on the premises at all times.

Outdoor Play

Any outdoor play will take place in safe secure and well-supervised spaces. A thorough safety check and risk assessment will take place, before any outdoor activities commence. This fully compliments the daily risk assessments.

Outdoor play areas will be well maintained and free from hazards as far as is possible. Ponds, drains, pools or any unnatural water will be made safe or inaccessible to children.

Any outside water features will be kept safe, and inaccessible to unsupervised children. In the event of snow or ice on external walkways, staff will ensure that this is regularly cleared and kept safe.

Staff will make sure there is a regular supply of water available to children at all times, especially in hot conditions. In such circumstances, staff will also ensure that children are adequately protected from the sun, according to the provisions set out in the Health, Illness and Emergency policy.

