



## **SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE**

31617 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S  
Federal Way, WA 98003  
Prevention: 253-946-7348  
Inspection Request: 253-946-7318  
Email: prevention@southkingfire.org

## **CHILDCARE CHECKLIST**

### **Emergency Procedures**

- ✓ Emergency phone numbers posted near the phone.
- ✓ Fire escape routes posted at the exit.
- ✓ Fire safety and fire evacuation plans in place.
- ✓ First-aid supplies are readily available.
- ✓ An operable telephone is located within the residence/building.
- ✓ Exit doors and windows are not obstructed and are easily opened from the inside.
- ✓ Address is visible and legible from the street fronting the property.

### **Home Safety & Health**

- ✓ Knives, tools, matches and other potentially hazardous materials are not accessible to children.
- ✓ Candles or incense are not used.
- ✓ Combustible materials (including, but not limited to, lint, or rags soaked in grease, oils, or solvent) to accumulate; those items must be removed from the building or stored in a closed metal container.
- ✓ Store items labeled "flammable" in areas that are inaccessible to children and away from exits.
- ✓ Emergency flashlight with extra batteries is available.

### **Furnaces and other heating devices**

- ✓ Paper, rubbish, or combustible materials must be kept at least three (3') feet away from any furnace, fireplace, or other heating device. A heating device must be inaccessible to the children; isolated, enclosed or protected.
- ✓ Any appliance or heating device that has a hot surface capable of burning a child must be made inaccessible to the children in care during operating hours when the appliance or device is in use or is still hot after use.
- ✓ Any chimney, fireplace, wood stove or similar wood-burning device in use must be inspected yearly unless the licensee provides a written statement that the chimney, fireplace, wood stove or similar wood-burning device will not be used at any time.
- ✓ Portable heaters are not in use during operating hours.

### **Physical Environment**

- ✓ Wiring appears to be safe; no known hazards exist.
- ✓ Electrical circuit devices and appliances must be properly maintained and not overloaded.
- ✓ Power strips with a surge protector are plugged directly into an outlet.
- ✓ Extension cords are used only for a brief or temporary purpose.

### **Fire Safety & Smoke Alarms**

- ✓ Smoke alarms are tested monthly and those tests are documented.
- ✓ Smoke alarms are installed in all nap/sleeping areas and on every floor.
- ✓ Batteries are replaced in smoke alarms once a year.
- ✓ At least one 2A:10B:C fire extinguisher is on each floor that child care is present.
- ✓ Monthly checks shall be completed/ documented by facility staff to ensure extinguishers are ready for use.
- ✓ Fire extinguisher(s) shall be kept on a shelf or mounted, with the top no more than five (5') feet above the floor and within seventy-five (55') feet from any point in the facility.
- ✓ Travel distance to fire extinguishers in cooking areas is not to exceed thirty (30') feet.
- ✓ In addition to single station smoke alarms, an alternate method for sounding a fire alarm in family home childcare is present. A police type whistle or similar device is adequate for meeting this requirement, as long as this method is only used for emergency evacuations.

*This document provides general guidelines for childcare centers and daycares only, and acts as a safety survey for childcare providers in lieu of a fire department inspection.*