

Fire Safety Requirements

for

Child Care Centre

A. Restrictions on Location

Child care centre shall not be located : -

- (a) in any premises designed for residential use;
- (b) in any industrial building, warehouses, cinemas or premises whereby the undertakings therein may endanger the lives or safety of children;
- (c) in any premises situated at a height of 24m above ground level;
- (d) in any premises situated at a height of 12m above ground level, if the centre is used for children under 2 years of age;
- (e) in any premises located vertically above/below a restaurant/club.

B. Standard Requirements

1. All fire service installations and equipment (FSI) provided for the premises shall be retained and maintained in efficient working order. For all maintenance, alteration and addition, such works shall be carried out by a Registered FSI Contractor who shall issue Certificate(s) of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FS 251) to the owner with copies forwarded to the Director of Fire Services within 14 days after completion of the works. A certificate of compliance (FSI/314A, FSI/314B or FSI/314C as appropriate) shall also be submitted by the responsible Registered FSI Contractor to the Director of Fire Services for the alteration and addition works.
2. For child care centres of less than 230 square metres in area on any floor:-
 - 2.1 A fire detection system shall be provided for the entire centre and smoke detector(s) shall be provided in area(s) used for sleeping accommodation. The system shall be linked to the Fire Services Communication Centre by direct telephone line.

- 2.2 A manual fire alarm system with visual alarm signals in accordance with the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment with fire alarm call point at each of the following locations shall be provided :-
 - (a) the main entrance;
 - (b) near each exit.
3. For child care centres of exceeding 230 square metres in area on any floor:-
 - 3.1 A fire detection system actuated by smoke detector(s) shall be provided in area(s) used for sleeping accommodation. The system shall be linked to the Fire Services Communication Centre by direct telephone line.
 - 3.2 A fire hydrant / hose reel system in accordance with the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment shall be provided for the centre.
 - 3.3 A sprinkler system in accordance with the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment shall be provided.
 - 3.4 A manual fire alarm system with visual alarm signals in accordance with the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment with fire alarm call point at each of the following locations shall be provided :-
 - (a) the main entrance;
 - (b) near each exit.
4. All fire service installations control panels shall be installed at the reception area or near the main entrance inside the centre.
5. Portable fire fighting equipment of the approved type, over and above those installed for the occupation of the building, shall be provided as follows:
 - 5.1 _____ x 9 L water type fire extinguisher(s) at _____;
 - 5.2 _____ x 4.5 kg CO₂ type fire extinguisher(s) at _____ ; and
 - 5.3 _____ x 1.44 m² fire blanket at _____.
6. All exits shall be suitably indicated by illuminated signs bearing the word and characters “EXIT 出口” in block letters and characters of not less than 125mm high with 15mm strokes. The colour of the letters/characters and contrasting colour on the background shall comply with the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment.

7. If the exit signs are out of sight to any location within the premises, suitable directional signs in same dimensions as the exit signs shall be provided to assist the occupant to identify the exits in the event of an emergency.
8. Emergency lighting shall be provided to the premises and the attached requirements for Self-contained Luminaries Emergency Lighting System (PPA/104(A)) shall be complied with.
9. A ventilation/air-conditioning control system shall be provided to the premises if applicable and the attached Requirements for Ventilation/Air-conditioning Control Systems for Licensed Premises shall be complied with.
10. All combustible materials used for false ceilings, partitions or wall furnishings shall conform to British Standard 476 : Part 7 Class 1 or 2 Rate of Surface Spread of Flame or to another standard acceptable to the Director of Fire Services, or shall be brought up to any of those standards by treating with a fire retardant paint or solution acceptable to Director of Fire Services. In the latter case, the work shall be carried out by a Class 2 Registered Fire Service Installation Contractor and a certificate (FS251) to this effect from the Contractor shall be forwarded to this Department as documentary proof of compliance.
11. All linings for acoustic, thermal insulation or decorative purposes in ducting and concealed locations shall conform to British Standard 476 : Part 7 Class 1 or 2 Rate of Surface Spread of Flame or to another standard acceptable to the Director of Fire Services, or shall be brought up to any of those standards by treating with a fire retardant paint or solution acceptable to Director of Fire Services. In the latter case, the work shall be carried out by a Class 2 Registered Fire Service Installation Contractor and a certificate (FS251) to this effect from the Contractor shall be forwarded to this Department as documentary proof of compliance.
12. All draperies and curtains, if installed, shall be made of fire resistant material and conform to British Standard BS 5867: Part 2 (Type B performance requirements) when tested in accordance with BS EN ISO 15025:2002 or to any other standard acceptable to the Director of Fire Services, or shall be brought up to any of those standards by treating with a fire retardant solution acceptable to Director of Fire Services. In the latter case, the work shall be carried out by a Class 2 Registered Fire Service Installation Contractor and a certificate (FS251) to this effect from the Contractor shall be forwarded to this Department as documentary proof of compliance.

13. PU Foam

- 13.1 All polyurethane (PU) foam filled mattresses and covering material used for fabrication of mattresses shall conform to British Standard 7177 (for use in medium hazard premises/building); or "Standard for the Flammability (Open Flame) of Mattress Sets" - (Part 1633 of Title 16 of Code of Federal Regulations) as issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) in the US; or to other standard acceptable to the Director of Fire Services.
 - 13.2 All PU foam filled upholstered furniture and covering fabric used for fabrication of the furniture shall conform to British Standard 7176 (for use in medium hazard premises/building); or Flammability Test Procedure for Seating Furniture for Use in Public Occupancies (Technical Bulletin Number 133) as issued by the Bureau of Home Furnishings and Thermal Insulation, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California; or to other standard acceptable to the Director of Fire Services.
 - 13.3 Each PU foam filled mattresses and upholstered furniture conforming to British Standard 7177 (for use in medium hazard premises/building) and British Standard 7176 (for use in medium hazards premises/building) respectively shall bear an appropriate label (Appendix).
 - 13.4 Invoices from manufacturers/suppliers and test certificates from testing laboratories indicating that the PU foam filled mattresses and/or furniture items have complied with the specified standards shall be produced for verification. Test certificate shall be issued by a testing laboratory accredited to conduct test according to the specified standard, and be authenticated by the company's stamp of manufacturer/supplier.
14. An exit route plan drawn to a ratio of not less than 1:200 showing the floor layout of the premises and the directions of egress to escape staircases and means of escape shall be displayed prominently on wall immediately adjacent to the exit door of each classroom. The size of the exit plan shall not be less than 250mm x 250mm and shall be affixed at a height of 1500mm above the floor level.
15. The actual layout of the premises shall be in conformity with the latest approved plan.

16. Mechanical Ventilating System

The mechanical ventilating system installed at the premises shall comply with the Building (Ventilating Systems) Regulations, Cap. 123J, Laws of Hong Kong and the fire safety requirements for mechanical ventilating systems as stipulated in the Fire Services Department Circular Letter No.4/96 Part XI.

17. Where a roof is used as a playground and surrounded by metal fence, such fence shall be so installed as to be readily accessible to the Fire Services in an emergency.

18. Additional Requirements (if any) : -

Remarks :

Should the applicants have insurmountable difficulties in complying with the prescribed requirements, they can submit alternative proposals for FSD's consideration. For example, applicants can adopt the Fire Engineering approach, or submit a study report to explain how they will tackle problems of fire suppression, smoke control, evacuation and access of fire services personnel etc.

C. Fire Safety Precautions

1. Fire Service Installations and Equipment

All fire service installations and equipment provided shall be :

- 1.1 Kept clear from any obstruction;
- 1.2 Clearly indicated as regard to their locations and methods of operation;
- 1.3 Maintained in efficient working order at all times; and
- 1.4 Inspected at least once every twelve months.

Works related to para. 1.4 above shall be carried out by a Registered FSI Contractor who shall issue Certificate(s) of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FS251) to the owner with copies forwarded to the Director of Fire Services within 14 days after completion of the works. Failure to observe the FS precautions in para 1.3 & 1.4 may result in the owner of the installations being prosecuted under Regulation 8 of the Fire Services (Installations and Equipment) Regulations, Chapter 95B, Laws of Hong Kong.

2. Means of Escape

All means of escape shall be kept free from obstruction. In particular : -

- 2.1 No article or thing shall be left in the means of escape at any time (if in a domestic building) / at all times when persons are present in the building (if in a commercial building); and
- 2.2 All exits/doors shall be kept openable from the inside without the use of a key and all metal gates and shutters, where installed, shall be kept in the open position at all times when members of the public are present in the premises.

Failure to observe these precautions may result in the operator being prosecuted under Sections 14 and 15 of the Fire Services (Fire Hazard Abatement) Regulation, Chapter 95F, Laws of Hong Kong without prior warning.

- 2.3 All smoke stop doors provided in the premises shall be kept in closed position at all times.

3. Dangerous Goods

- 3.1 No storage of any dangerous goods in excess of the exempt quantity within the meaning of the Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations, Chapter 295B, Laws of Hong Kong is permitted without a licence or approval granted by the Director of Fire Services.

This document is for reference only. Detailed fire safety requirements will be separately issued subject to the result of on-site assessment.

Sample of Label (標籤樣本)

APPENDIX 附件

Sample I (樣本 I)

Stitch Line
<p>Manufactured by: Company Name (Address)</p> <p>Date of Manufacture: MM/YYYY</p> <p>Model: <Model ID></p> <p>Prototype ID: <Prototype ID></p> <p>This mattress meets the requirement of 16 CFR Part 1633 (federal flammability (open flame) standard for mattress sets) When used with foundation <ID></p>
<p>THIS MATTRESS IS INTENDED TO BE USED WITH FOUNDATION(S)</p> <p><u><FOUNDATION ID></u></p>

Sample II (樣本 II)

Stitch Line
<p>Manufactured by: Company Name (Address)</p> <p>Date of Manufacture: MM/YYYY</p> <p>Model: <Model ID></p> <p>Prototype ID: <Prototype ID></p> <p>FOUNDATION: <ID></p>

The minimum size of the label shall be 2 X 3 inches and the minimum size of the type shall be one-eighth inch in height. All type shall be in capital letters.

Sample III (樣本 III)



Sample IV (樣本 IV)

