

Fire Services Requirements for Child Care Centre

1. For child care centres of less than 230 square metre in area on any floor :-
 - a) 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 alarm of such system shall be transmitted to the Fire Services Communication Centre by direct telephone line. The installation work shall be carried out by a Registered Class 1 Fire Service Installation (F.S.I.) Contractor and a copy of the “Certificate of Fire Service Installations and Equipment” (Form FS 251) shall be submitted to the Director of Fire Services upon completion.
 - b) A manual fire alarm system shall be provided with actuating points and audio warning devices located at or near the main entrance lobby and a conspicuous location of the common corridor. The alarm of such system shall be integrated with the fire detection system.

2. For child care centres exceeding 230 square metre in area on any floor :-
 - a) A smoke detection system shall be provided in area(s) used for sleeping accommodation. The alarm of such system shall be transmitted to the Fire Services Communication Centre by direct telephone line. The installation work shall be carried out by a Registered Class 1 Fire Service Installation Contractor and copy of “Certificate of Fire Services Installations and Equipment” (Form FS 251) shall be submitted to the Director of Fire Services upon completion.
 - b) A hose reel system shall be provided for the centre such that every part of the premises can be reached by a length of not more than 30m of hose reel tubing. Where the building in which the centre is located is not provided with any fire hydrant/hose reel tank, the hose reel system may be fed by an improvised water tank of not less than 1500 litres. The system shall have a fixed fire pump which shall be permanently primed and be capable of producing a jet at the hose reel nozzle for a length of not less than 6m, at a flow of not less than 24 litres/minutes.
 - c) An automatic sprinkler installation shall be installed for the entire centre. Where the provision of sprinkler water tank is not possible, the water supply

for such system may be permitted to be obtained from the building's fire hydrant/hose reel tank or via direct connection from town mains. As a last means, connection to the 1500 litres hose reel tank as mentioned in para (b) above may be accepted. The improvised sprinkler system shall be installed in accordance with Fire Services Department Circular Letter No. 4/96 Part II. The installation works shall be carried out by a Registered Class 2 Fire Service Installation Contractor and a copy of "Certificate of Fire Service Installations and Equipment" (Form FS 251) shall be submitted to the Director of Fire Services upon completion.

- d) A manual fire alarm system shall be provided with one actuating point and one audio warning device at each hose reel point. This actuating point shall include facilities for fire pump start and audio warning device initiation. The alarm of such system shall be integrated with the fire detection system.
3. All fire service installations control panels shall be installed at the reception area or near the main entrance inside the centre.
4. One 4.5kg CO₂ gas fire extinguisher of approved type shall be provided in each kitchen/pantry/switch room and one 1200 x 1200 mm fire blanket of approved type shall be provided in the kitchen. Inside the centre, _____ 9-litre CO₂/water fire extinguisher of approved type shall be provided at the location(s) as indicated on the plan(s).
5. 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 wide strokes. The colour of the letters/characters and contrasting colour on the background shall comply with any one of the following colour combinations and shall be consistent throughout the entire premises :-

| <u>Letter Colour</u> | <u>Contrasting background colour</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Green | White |
| White | Green |

6. Emergency lighting shall be provided throughout the entire centre. A self-contained battery type emergency lighting system in accordance with Part V, para. 5.9 of the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment will be

accepted if the illumination level of not less than 2 lux for a duration of 2 hours in the event of power failure is provided.

7. When a ventilation/air conditioning control system is provided, it shall be actuated by the smoke detectors with a central, manually operated back-up facility to stop mechanically induced air movement within a designated fire compartment.
8. Primary and secondary electrical supply shall be provided to all fire service installations.
9. All fire service installations and equipment installed in the centre premises shall be maintained in efficient working order at all times and inspected by a Registered Fire Services Installation Contractor at least once every 12 months. A copy of the "Certificate of Fire Service Installations and Equipment" (Form FS 251) issued by the Contractor shall be submitted to the Director of Fire Services as proof of compliance.
10. No storage of dangerous goods in excess of exempted quantity or the aggregated quantity specified in the Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations is permitted without a licence or approval granted by the Director of Fire Services.
11. All Exit doors shall be readily and conveniently openable from inside the centre without the use of a key.
12. All exits and exit routes must be kept free from obstruction at all times.
13. Electrical work on fixed electrical installation shall be carried out by Registered Electrical Contractor/Worker (REC/REW) with Work Completion Certificate (Form WR1) prepared and signed by the REC/REW to certify that the installation is in full compliance with the Electricity (Wiring) Regulations (Cap. 406 Sub. Leg.) after completion.
14. In addition to item 13 above, socket outlets in the Child Care Centre shall be installed in a position out of the reach of children. Where socket outlets installed within the reach of children in existing premises, these socket outlets shall be protected by residual current device (RCD) satisfying the safety requirements as stated in the relevant provision of the Code of Practice for the Electricity (Wiring) Regulations issued by Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.

15. The height of all parapets and window openings shall be at least 1100 mm from the floor, unless satisfactorily guarded by fence or bars, in which case such fence or bars shall be so installed as to be readily removable by the Fire Services in an emergency.
16. 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.
17. All ventilating systems that embody the use of ducting or trunking, passing any wall, floor, or ceiling from one compartment to another, shall comply with the Building (Ventilating System) Regulations. Detailed drawings showing the layout of the ventilating system shall be submitted to the Ventilation Division of the Fire Services Department via the licensing authority, i.e. Social Welfare Department, for verification inspection. The system shall subsequently be inspected by a Registered Ventilation Contractor at intervals not exceeding 12 months and a copy of the maintenance certificate shall be forwarded to the Director of Fire Services as proof of compliance.
18. All linings for acoustic, thermal insulation or decorative purposes within protected means of escape in the child care centre shall be of Class 1 or 2 Rate of Surface Spread of Flame as per British Standard 476 Part 7 or its international equivalent, or be brought up to that standard by use of an approved fire retardant product. To this effect, a copy of the "Certificate of Fire Service Installations and Equipment" (Form FS 251) issued by a Registered Class 2 Fire Service Installation Contractor shall be submitted to the Director of Fire Services as proof of compliance.
19. All linings for acoustic and thermal insulation purposes in ducting and concealed locations shall be of class 1 or 2 Rate of Surface Spread of Flame as per British Standard 476 Part 7 or its international equivalent, or be brought up to that standard by use of an approved fire retardant product. To this effect, a copy of the "Certificate of Fire Service Installations and Equipment" (From FS 251) issued by a Registered Class 2 Fire Service Installation Contractor shall be submitted to the Director of Fire Services as proof of compliance.
20. All decorative fabrics including curtains, draperies and other textile hangings shall be of flame-retarded fabric and shall conform with BS 5867 : Part 2 fabric type B when tested in accordance with BS 5438 or its international equivalent, or be

brought up to that standard by use of an approved fire retardant product. To this effect, a copy of the “Certificate of Fire Service Installation and Equipment” (Form FS 251) issued by a Registered Class 2 Fire Service Installation Contractor shall be submitted to the Director of Fire Services as proof of compliance.

21. If PU foam filled mattresses and upholstered furniture are used within the premises, they shall meet flammability standard as specified in British Standard BS 7177 : 1996 and BS 7176 : 1995 for use in medium hazard premises/building or standards acceptable to the Director of Fire Services.
22. Any other additional requirements as may be specified by the Fire Services Department.