

**Fostering household fire plan**

**What to do if there is a fire**

We will discuss the fire drill with the children as and when appropriate, ideally when first placed with us.

The house keys are kept ..........................................

A set of keys will be kept in our bedroom in case our exit is blocked. We can then throw the spare set out of the window to the fire-fighters to enable them to gain entry quickly.

If the smoke alarm goes off when we are asleep, shout to wake everyone up, follow escape plan and get out of the house and find somewhere safe to wait.

Do not stop to investigate the fire.

Do not stop to gather valuables, belongings or pets – human beings are more important.

Close any doors which are open and only open the doors you need to go through.

Check the doors with the back of your hand – if warm, don’t open it, the fire is on the other side.

If there is a lot of smoke, crawl on the floor as the air will be cleanest there.

Once everybody is out of the building, dial 999.

Do not go back into the building, if there is somebody left inside, tell the fire-fighters.

**Escaping from a Fire**

**From an upstairs window**

If you have to break a window, use bedding to cover jagged edges of glass.

Use other bedding to throw out of the window to break your fall.

Do not jump out of the window – lower yourself down to arm’s length and drop to the ground.

**If your escape route is blocked**

Try and get everyone into one room, preferably one which has a window and a phone in it. Close the door and await rescue.

Put bedding or towels along the bottom of the door to seal the gap and prevent smoke and fumes getting into the room.

Open the window and stay near it for fresh air and to let fire fighters know where you are.

If your clothes catch fire do not run around as this will fan the flames. Instead lie down and roll around - smother the flames with a coat or blanket.

**Fire Prevention**

When cooking be careful of loose clothing as it can easily catch fire. Keep electrical leads, tea towels and cloths away from the cooker and hob.

Children will never be alone in the kitchen.

Matches and lighters will be kept where children cannot reach them.

The oven, hob, toaster and grill will be cleaned regularly as a build-up of grease, crumbs or fat can easily catch fire.

Pans will not be left on the hob when (insert carers’ names here).......................................................................................... is not around.

Children are not to switch on the oven or hob.

If a pan should catch fire, never throw water over it – turn off the heat under the pan (if safe to do so) and let it cool completely.

We will not overload electrical sockets. All sockets will be fitted with extension leads where necessary – no double adapters.

Smoke alarms will be checked on a regular basis.

Do not place anything on top of heaters or lamps.

Illustration of escape plan (to be completed with SSW).