

HEALTH AND SAFETY CHANGES

Garden tip; It's time to plant your radishes and maybe try planting a zucchini or two in a pot.

Community and Public Health's health and safety assessment of Early Childhood Centres has recently undergone a review and a number of areas will now not be assessed by this office due to the implementation of the new Regulations - The Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008 and associated Licensing Criteria. The areas include:

- Gas bottles
- Sewage disposal
- Electrical safety
- Water quality of pools
- External play area safety including equipment, sandpits and poisonous plants
- External fencing
- First aid
- Hazard ID register
- Emergency provisions and procedures
- Surrounding neighbourhoods including location.
- Chemicals and medicines
- Transport and excursions

Two additional requirements implemented by the new Regulations (Licensing criteria) will however be added to our checklist. These are:

- The requirement for a written procedure (HS2) for the hygienic laundering (off-site or on-site) of linen used by children and adults.
- For existing services holding a sessional licence that do not have a plumbed in fixture for washing sick or soiled children a procedure outlining how hygiene and infection control outcomes will be met when washing sick or soiled children. All new services will need to comply with the Building Act 2004 as will services undertaking renovations – check directly with your district or city council about compliance. Under G1.3.1 of the building code relating to personal hygiene there is a specific requirement for early childhood centres to have as a minimum a bath.

If you have any queries on the above please contact this office.

Healthy Nibbles for Tots

Nutrition and Physical Activity Information and more for Under 5s

For more information visit: www.cph.co.nz

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