Health and Safety Policy

The Health and Safety of your child is very important to us and we have, therefore, documented the following procedures that we have in place to support this.   
When cooking with children as an activity, we will ensure that all ingredients are fresh. Children will also be provided with aprons and all surfaces will be clean, as will children’s hands.   
To prevent accident hot drinks are placed high on the kitchen draining board and never in children's reach (although these are rarely consumed and generally kept in the kitchen.)

We will ensure that our first aid equipment remains clean, replenished and replaced as necessary. Sterile items will be kept sealed in their original packages until needed. If an accident occurs to a child whilst they are in my care, then I will write an accident report, which the parent must sign and date upon collection.   
All toys will be checked and cleaned regularly to ensure they are safe for your child to use. Any broken or hazardous toys will be removed immediately. Children will only be offered toys and resources that are suitable for their age/stage of development or to promote development.   
We do a quick risk assessment every morning before the children arrive to ensure that it is a safe environment for children and any hazards dealt with.   
Having received information that some socket covers actually cause hazards and that sockets are unlikely to cause any injury socket protectors are not used throughout my home. Children however are monitored and tempting sockets have plugs in.  
All equipment will be checked and cleaned regularly. All equipment is fitted with the correct safety harnesses to prevent accidents, for example high-chair and pushchairs.   
Car seats are checked regularly to ensure they are correctly fitted. We will never use a second hand car seat, as we do not know its history.   
Jenny’s car is regularly serviced and has a MOT. The safety locks on the back doors work and are used where necessary. The car insurance is for Business use.   
We use safety equipment appropriate for the children in our care, ie: stair gates, cupboard locks etc. These are checked regularly.   
We will keep the front door locked with the keys on a hook up high to prevent the children opening the door to strangers.

The back door is too stiff for the children to open but the side gate is locked if they did manage it.  
We have procedures in place in the event of a fire (see separate policy).   
We keep my kitchen clean, following hygiene guidelines on the storing of food, keeping the fridge at the correct temperature etc.   
We ensure that the children do not have access to any waste, the bins are emptied daily and any used nappies are wrapped and placed in the outdoor rubbish bin.   
We do not permit smoking in my home (see separate policy).   
We follow strict hygiene guidelines to prevent contamination (see separate policy).   
We have strict Child protection guidelines in place (see separate policy).   
We have emergency contact details with us at all times should we need to contact the parents (see mobile phone policy).   
We will work with you to teach the children about safety issues like crossing the road and stranger danger.   
We will work with you to teach the children about making healthy food choices and physical exercise (see separate policies).   
Sleeping children will be regularly monitored and we use a baby monitor as well.   
We discourage the children from keeping 'secrets'.   
We will restrain a child if they are putting themselves or others in danger, for example running into a road (see separate policy)   
Head Lice - No Child will be excluded from my care, it is not their fault they have head lice. However, an untreated highly infected child could be cause for alarm. Please inform us immediately if you have discovered that your child has head lice.   
Sun Protection - we will do everything we can, working in partnership with you, to ensure that your child is protected from the sun's rays and for this reason will need you to provide us with:   
Sun Cream suitable for your child (high factor). Sun hat (preferably a legionnaires hat to protect the neck).   
A thin top/cardigan/t-shirt with long sleeves. Permission to use our sun cream if yours is forgotten.  
We will ensure that your child uses the sun cream that you have provided and wears the hat. We will also avoid spending prolonged periods of time outdoors during the hottest part of the day and will remain on the shaded patio. We will encourage your child to drink water regularly to prevent dehydration.

If you have any concerns regarding the health and safety of your child please discuss them with us.