



Lone Working Policy

At Deaf Active, the safety and welfare of our staff and the children in our care is paramount. It is best practice for at least two members of staff to be on duty at any one time, but situations may arise where this is not possible. When it is necessary for only one member of staff to be on duty, we will follow the procedures set out in this policy.

Preparation and planning

The Manager must approve all instances of lone working in advance and such instances will be recorded on the staff rota.

Parents will be notified if only one member of staff will be on duty for a session or part of a session.

A full risk assessment for lone working must be carried out before lone working is approved.

Suitable staff

Staff members who are suitable for lone working will be approved in advance. Staff members approved for lone working must have all the relevant qualifications, training and skills. For example:

- current paediatric first aid certificate
- child protection training
- food handling and hygiene certificate
- the necessary skills and experience to supervise the children alone
- does not have any medical condition that might affect their suitability to work alone.
- is familiar with the emergency evacuation procedure - and how this can be adapted to lone working situations.

Working practices

When a member of staff is working alone, they must still keep all children “within sight or hearing at all times” as required by EYFS 2021. This includes whilst children are eating. Therefore all essential resources must be readily to hand and not kept in a separate part of the building. For example:

- child records
- emergency contact details
- first aid kit
- organisation mobile phone
- any forms that may be required during a session, eg accident and incident logs, logging a concern form, collection by unknown person, visitor log, etc
- cleaning products



If intimate care is given, a record will be made using an **Incident log** and parents will be asked to sign this on collection of their child.

Related policies

See also: **Safeguarding policy, Emergency evacuation policy, Intimate care policy, Illness and accidents policy, Risk assessment policy.**

This policy was adopted by: Thomas Maher	Date: August 2025
To be reviewed: September 2026	Signed: T.Maher

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Child protection [3.4-3.6], Suitable people [3.18], Staff qualifications, training, support and skills [3.24-3.25], Staff:child ratios [3.27-3.29, 3.40], Food and drink [3.46], Accident or injury [3.48], Premises [3.60], Risk assessment [3.63]*

I confirm that I have read and understand the above policy.

Staff Name	Date	Signature