

PRECONDITIONS REGARDING SAFETY

Physical safety

The arrangement of the rooms is designed with the safety of the children in mind. All the furniture in a group space, such as beds, cots, playpens, toys, play materials, and tables have to meet the specified requirements. The size of the group space and the size of the playground satisfy the criteria for such, and are even more spacious than deemed necessary under the current standards. Each year, a risk assessment and evaluation is carried out to identify dangerous situations and ways to improve safety. Fire drills are also carried out annually, and Nannies are given a refresher course on child first aid.

Attention is also given to the safety of the Nannies, and CompaNanny provides furniture so they can work ergonomically.

Safety regulations

To guarantee safety within the group space and both inside and outside the childcare centre, Nannies are expected to observe a number of rules in order to keep any possible risks for children and Nannies to a minimum. So these rules can be followed properly, CompaNanny has:

In the group space:

- An Ipad with access to the Parent Portal which can be used to record such information about the children as allergies and use of medication.
- An evacuation plan which describes in detail how and when an evacuation should take place.
- An attendance list in the Parent Portal so that if there is an evacuation we know exactly who is on the premises.
- Good quality floors that are easy to keep clean.
- An adjoining group space so that children can move temporarily to the neighbouring group space when, for example, cleaning is being carried out.
- A separate Nanny room and ample cupboard space in the kitchen or in a desk where the personal belongings of Nannies, such as coats and bags, can be kept out of the reach of children.
- A toy policy which states that toys with small parts should be purchased as little as possible.
- A neatly organised toy cupboard with containers so the toys can be tidied away properly and the group space kept neat and tidy.
- A playpen with safe handles and locks so it can be secured safely when a child is placed in it.
- Any windows that children can get to are fitted with safety bars so children cannot fall through them.
- Toys from approved toy manufacturers meant for day-care centres. Toys are ordered from their toy catalogues so the products are covered by a guarantee.
- Neatly arranged group spaces so Nannies can easily keep an eye on all the children.

Outside the group space:

- Rooms that children are not allowed in, such as the storage room, the washroom, and the supply room, are fitted with a lock.
- The doors of the group space and the bedroom have a window so you can always see if a child is on the other side.
- Doors are fitted with finger strips so children cannot get their fingers trapped in the door.
- A sprinkler for the playground so that children can be cooled off during hot weather.
- Suntan lotion and screens to create shade in summer to protect the children against the sun.
- A child-friendly playground design which allows children to explore and play safely.

- Carts to go on walks with the children or on visits to zoos or petting farms.

Sleeping:

- Cots with curtains so that an eye can be kept on children when they are sleeping in the group space.
- A separate bedroom for each group space, so that children can sleep safely in a bed.
- Beds that can be safely locked.
- The two flaps on the beds are always closed to prevent children getting stuck. The hoods must not be left open more than 10 cm for some reason.
- A dresser with the containers for the children within reach so that during dressing or undressing the Nanny is always able to hold a child with one hand while she gets the child's container with the other.

Food and drink:

- Highchairs which the children can sit in safely.
- A kitchen with a side gate on a cot that can be locked so children can be kept out.
- Special thermo beakers for Nannies which they can drink hot drinks out of safely, and plastic cutlery.

A number of protocols and forms are used within CompaNanny in relation to child safety.

First aid

Each year CompaNanny offers a children's first aid (refresher) course to all Nannies. We think it is very important that everyone knows what to do when there is something wrong with a child. Each group space has a First Aid kit. CompaNanny will pay for any items that need to be restocked.

Permission for medication and non-standard sleeping position

CompaNanny has a medication consent form that parents have to fill out if they want their child to receive prescription or non-prescription medication during the day. There is also a non-standard sleeping position registration form for parents who want their children (who are unable to choose their own sleeping position) to sleep in a position other than on their back.

Dangerous situations or (near) accidents

Forms are available in the group spaces that Nannies have to fill in if they have identified a dangerous situation or if either they or a child has an accident.

Safety risk assessment and evaluation (RI&E)

Each year, a safety risk assessment and evaluation is carried out. This results in a detailed description of any areas that need improvement and/or attention. The maintenance of safety lies entirely in the hands of the Nannies. As a CompaNanny, you therefore have to keep this in mind at all times! The risk assessment and evaluation also identifies when the preconditions are not adequate enough to ensure safe working. These boundary conditions then need to be improved upon by CompaNanny.

CompaNanny and the 'four eyes principle'

As of 1 July 2013, the four eyes principle is obliged by Dutch law and is applicable to child care companies taking care of children from 0 to 4 years. It contains that a Nanny working alone at a group should always be watched and listened by a second person. At CompaNanny we normally work with two Nannies on one group during the day. Also, group spaces are most of the time adjoined by a door and see-through glass. This door can be opened at certain times during the day. This ensures transparency and a close cooperation between the Nannies.

At certain moments a Nanny can be working alone on one group, for example during breaks, when there are few children present or at the beginning and end of the day. To ensure that a second person can always watch or listen, several possibilities are at hand. Most of the time the doors of the adjoining group are opened or an intern is available. Also, there is always someone available at the office of the location of CompaNanny to support the groups during these moments. Finally, the possibility is available that a baby monitor is placed at another group at the office so someone can listen. By these measures, CompaNanny ensures that the four eyes principle is always applied.

General practitioner or First Aid point

Every location of CompaNanny is allied to a general practitioner or a First Aid point, which in case of emergency can be contacted. This general practitioner or First Aid point is mentioned on the social map of the location.