

## **Guidance Note**

### **On Bouncy Castles and inflatable play equipment?**

#### **Introduction**

Bouncy castles and inflatable's are great fun for children and for team building exercises, however these activities hold large hazards and need to be well controlled, this guidance note aims to give information on how to control from the planning stages to the practical stages.

#### **Who's responsible?**

##### **Hiring Company**

It is the responsibility of the hiring company to provide safe and regularly checked and tested equipment with appropriate instructions and information relating to the equipment.

##### **Head teacher**

It's also the responsibility of the Head teacher to ensure the safety of all persons that use the equipment by:

- Informing the insurance officer
- Carrying out a risk assessment
- Providing adequate supervision, insuring that same age groups are kept together.
- Providing adequate first aid provision
- Providing fire evacuation plans
- Prohibiting food in the equipment
- Setting out a perimeter boundary
- Keeping all electrical equipment out of reach of children.

#### **Good Practices**

- Contact the Insurance Officer due in the planning stages of the event.
- Users should not be allowed to use the bouncy castle if there is a high wind or in wet weather;
- The inflatable must be adequately secured to the ground;
- Soft matting covering hard surfaces must be placed adjacent to the front or open sides;
- The number of people using the inflatable must be limited to the number recommended in the hire company's safety instructions;

- All users must be made to remove footwear, hard or sharp objects such as jewellery, buckles and other similar pocket contents;
- Eating, consuming alcohol or chewing gum whilst bouncing must not be allowed;
- Users should not be allowed to obstruct the entrance or exit of an inflatable device or climb or hang on to the walls;

### **Check list**

The following is a guide to ensure that you have the necessary information regarding the use of inflatable prior to your event;

- Hire Company Insurance Certificate
- First-aid Provision
- Event Risk Assessment
- Fire Provision
- Hire Company Risk Assessment document
- Pre use inspection
- ADIPS (Amusement Device Inspection Procedures Scheme) Inspection Report or equivalent

### **Further Advice**

For further advice and guidance please contact the Education Health and Safety team on:

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