

Child Care Occupancy Fire Inspection Guidelines

Important Notice

This fire inspection guideline does not include all requirements for Child Care occupancy. This bulletin is intended to prepare existing owners of Child Care occupancies for their annual fire inspection. If you are planning on opening a Child Care facility, contact your regional health authorities' Community Care Facility Licensing office, they will provide you with an application package and can help you get started. In West Vancouver contact **Vancouver Coastal Health**.

Common Fire Service Requirements

- Address must be visible from the road and lane, free from foliage, trees, etc. and in a contrasting colour.
- Combustible artwork shall not exceed 20% of the wall or ceiling area.
- Carbon Monoxide alarms: If you have gas-burning appliances in the facility carbon monoxide alarms are required.
- Each facility must have two means of egress (escape) from each floor area.
- Electrical outlets must be protected with secure covers.
- Exit doors must not be blocked from either the inside or outside. Locking hardware on exit doors shall be readily able to open without special knowledge or a key being required from the inside.
- Extension cords kept to a minimum and not overloaded.
- Emergency contacts: Each facility must have a telephone with local emergency numbers posted nearby.
- Emergency kits: These kits are a mandatory requirement for Provincial licensing.
- Fire separations must have no holes or openings that compromise their purpose.
- Fire Safety Plan shall be in place showing procedures for evacuation, use of fire extinguishers, and emergency numbers and conform to BC Fire Code. 2.8.
- Furnace area: must be segregated from the daycare by a proper fire separation.
- Fire extinguishers must be mounted in a visible location, accessible, and serviced and tagged at least once every 12 months by a certified technician.
- Portable heaters must be an approved type and kept away from combustibles.
- Smoke Alarms: Replace all smoke alarms, including alarms that use 10-year batteries and hard-wired alarms, when they are 10 years old or sooner if they do not respond properly. Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Handrails fencing and guards: Water hazards must be secured from children with locking gates and fencing that is a minimum of 6ft in height. Decks and stairways must be adequately railed to obstruct small children from fall hazards. Spindles/balusters on railings must be less than 4" apart. Minimum height of railings to be 42".
- Hazards: Inspect your facility for pinch, entanglement, entrapment and fall hazards. Pools and hot tubs are to be secured and fenced.
- The permanent use of extension cords is not permitted.
- Waste receptacles shall be of non-combustible material.



WEST VANCOUVER FIRE & RESCUE

760 16th Street
West Vancouver BC V7V 3T3
Fire Prevention Officer: 604-925-7392
fireprevention@westvancouver.ca

