

ENVIRONMENT OF CARE CHECKLIST – for assessing Relief Caregivers

Note: this list is only a summary.

Refer to **Standards for Foster Homes – Environment of Care (E1 & E2)** or your Resources Social Worker for details

- Non-Smoking environment
- Emergency Plan is posted; children informed; plan is practiced at least every 6 months
- Emergency plan for child needing assistance in place
- Child has been advised of hazards in the home
- Child is supervised when in area of known hazards
- Home has minimum of two exits from each floor which are unobstructed
- Rooms commonly used for other purposes (ie: rec room) are not used as bedrooms for children.
- Each bedroom has a door and a window equipped for emergency exit
- Window opens; NO bars on windows; No locks on windows
- Child has own bed; Child over one year does not share a bedroom with an adult
- Bunk beds / cribs/ cradles meet standards
- Smoke detectors mounted on or near the ceiling of each sleeping area and on each floor;
 checked monthly; new battery annually
- 5 lb. ABC fire extinguisher readily accessible to kitchen; tested annually
- Working telephone, accessible by a child.
- Emergency phone numbers are posted by phone
- Heat, light and ventilation are safe/comfortable – no visible toxins, ie: mold
- First-Aid kit maintained and accessible to all
- Medications and poisonous substances are labelled and locked
- Dangerous objects/equipment securely stored
- Weapons are inaccessible and unusable/disassembled
- Animals: no risk and up to date rabies vaccinations
- Children are protected from animals which are potentially dangerous to them
(ie: ask – has your dog(s) ever bitten anyone or shown signs of aggression)
- Safe outdoor recreation equipment and pools/hot tubs
- Child is supervised using pools and trampolines
- Motor vehicle is safe, well maintained and insured
- Individuals transporting children have a valid driver's license of appropriate classification
- Child is properly restrained in vehicle; Child 12 years and under rides in the back seat of vehicle
- Car seats: meet Canadian safety standards; haven't expired; are properly installed
(bolt anchor, etc.); www.icbc.com/road-safety/safer-drivers/child-seats

For more information: **Standards for Foster Homes** is available from your Resources Social Worker or on the Forms and Publications page at www.okfosterparents.ca

Foster Parent Signature: _____ Date _____

Relief Caregiver Signature: _____ Date _____