

CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

**Virtual Foster Home Safety Check**

\_\_\_\_ Family must provide a drawing of their floor plan to include sleeping arrangements and bed capacity prior to the virtual safety check being completed by the worker. (This can be hand drawn or printed).

\_\_\_\_ Worker must virtually view ALL rooms in the home (to include garages and storage spaces).

\_\_\_\_ Worker should virtually view all outside living areas accessible to children (front, back and side yards, barns, garages, etc.)

\_\_\_\_ The following must be virtually viewed by the worker AND documented:

* Functional and sanitary bathroom
* Working utilities
* Functional and sanitary cooking and refrigeration equipment
* Smoke alarm within 10 feet of each bedroom and on every level of the home
* Carbon monoxide detector, if applicable
* Poisonous or cleaning materials (inaccessible to children)
* Pets (if applicable)
* First aid supplies (document any supplies that are missing and inaccessible due to COVID-19)
* Outside play areas

\_\_\_\_ The following must be virtually viewed by the worker AND pictures should be uploaded into TWIST:

* Bedroom for future placement (including closet/dresser space available)
* Child’s bed (if applicable) with clean and appropriate bedding
* Fire extinguisher
* Locked medications
* Locked firearms and ammunition
* Alcoholic beverages (inaccessible to children)
* Pools (if applicable)

**SAFETY CHECKLIST**

The physical condition of the home may not present a hazard to the safety and health of a child and should be well heated and ventilated.

**State’s Requirements for All Ages**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes** | **No** | **N/A** |  |
|  |  |  | Properly functioning and sanitary kitchen (cooking and refrigeration equipment) |
|  |  |  | Properly functioning and sanitary bathroom, with a sink, toilet, and tub/shower |
|  |  |  | Working utilities |
|  |  |  | Alcoholic beverages must be inaccessible to a child |
|  |  |  | Poisonous or cleaning material must be inaccessible to a child (i.e., in overhead or locked cabinets. This includes detergents, paint, weed killer, gas, bleach, fingernail polish remover, etc.) |
|  |  |  | Firearms and ammunition must be locked separately and inaccessible to a child. |
|  |  |  | Medications must be locked and inaccessible to a child. |
|  |  |  | First aid kit or supplies. |
|  |  |  | A working telephone is to be accessible to the home. |
|  |  |  | If you on the home uses well water, documentation must be provided stating that the water is safe/clean. |
|  |  |  | Working smoke detectors must be on each floor or the home and within 10 feet of every bedroom. |
|  |  |  | Working fire extinguisher. |
|  |  |  | If the home has natural gas, there must be a working carbon monoxide detector. |
|  |  |  | The home is free of lead paint. |
|  |  |  | Swimming pools will meet state and local requirements regarding safety precautions. (Safety and supervision plan will be addressed in the homestudy and re-evaluations.) |
|  |  |  | Pets must be current on rabies vaccinations. |

**Additional Suggestions if Child is Under 5 Years Old**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes** | **No** | **N/A** |  |
|  |  |  | Outlet covers on ALL outlets not in use. |
|  |  |  | Baby gate for every stair case. |
|  |  |  | Anything a baby can sit or play in (car seat, crib, baby bed, etc.) must be approved by the fire/safety department (a list is posted on the web and checks and installation are provided at the fire/safety department). |
|  |  |  | Baby locks are installed on all kitchen/bathroom drawers. |
|  |  |  | Baby knobs are installed on any room that the child should not have access to (bedroom, pantry, laundry room, linen closet, etc.). |
|  |  |  | Secure mini-blind cords. |
|  |  |  | Do not use bumpers on cribs. |
|  |  |  | If the home has a deep bathtub, secure the bathroom so that the child/infant cannot get in it. |
|  |  |  | If the home has cats, attempts should be made to put litterboxes in a place that the child cannot access. |

**Child’s Room Checklist**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Yes** | **No** | **N/A** |  |
|  |  |  | Each child is to have a separate bed that is age and size appropriate for the child. (A waiver may apply in child specific foster home approvals) |
|  |  |  | Each child under age one should have a crib that meets Consumer Product Safety Commission standards. |
|  |  |  | An empty storage space for the child in their room (preferably a dresser or closet). |
|  |  |  | Clean and appropriate sheets for mattress that are changed weekly.  |