

Non Use of Plug Socket Covers Policy

Having read the website www.fatallyflawed.org.uk and information from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) Springfields Pre-school have decided not to use socket covers in the setting.

Research has proven that the risk from using socket covers is greater than the risk of not using them and put the safety of the children above everything else. The RoSPA state, 'RoSPA does not consider it necessary to recommend the use of socket covers'. British sockets are made in such a way that even if something is pushed into one of the socket shutters there is no danger of electric shock. BS1363 sockets are designed to be child safe.

OFSTED Statement

"Ofsted neither recommends nor prohibits the use of socket covers; instead we look at how registered providers ensure their premises are as safe as possible for children. It is for the provider to decide as part of the risk assessment they carry out at their premises how best to protect children from dangers associated with electric sockets and appliances. Providers may wish to consult the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) and Child Accident Protection Trust websites for information to help them make a decision about the use of socket covers."

As well as using British standard sockets we will take the following precautions:

- Using furniture & equipment to block access to sockets whenever possible.
- Make sure that the socket shows no sign of damage.
- Check the operation of the shutters regularly using the Fatally Flawed help page <http://www.fatallyflawed.org.uk/html/faq.html#Q10>
- Ensure that no items or toys which could be poked into socket shutters are available or within reach of children.

Teach children, in age appropriate ways, the dangers of electricity when it is misused.

Policy Adopted by