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| **Program Name** |  |
| **This template identifies what to include in your program’s safe sleep policies and procedures. Please ensure that your program adheres to all the recommendations listed and modify them as needed before distributing.** | |
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| **Why a Safe Sleep Policy Is Necessary** | |
| Providing infants with a safe environment in which to grow and learn is of extreme importance to us. Therefore, our child care program has implemented policies and procedures to create a safe sleep environment for infants. We follow the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Consumer Safety Commission for safe sleep environments to reduce the risk of Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID).  **NOTE: To lower the risk of SUID, infants are ALWAYS placed on their backs to sleep unless they have a signed alternate sleep position waiver from a medical provider that is approved by the Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning (OECOSL).** | |

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| **Safe Sleep Procedures and Practices** |
| We adhere to the following recommended safe sleep procedures:   * Infants 0 - 12 months are placed alone on their backs on a firm, tight-fitting mattress in approved cribs for ALL sleeps. * Cribs are not placed near windows with corded blinds, shades, or other strangulation risks. * Bouncy seats, sofas, swings, car seats, and other soft surfaces are not used as infant sleeping surfaces. * Pillows, blankets, quilts, comforters, sheepskins, stuffed toys, and other soft products are not allowed in cribs. * Infants’ heads are not covered during sleep. * Infants are not swaddled. * Infants are dressed in appropriate clothing to prevent overheating. Bibs, hats, hoods, headbands, etc. are removed prior to placing infants in their cribs. * When infants can easily turn over from their backs to their stomachs, they are allowed to adopt whatever position they prefer as long as they are always initially placed on their backs. * Smoking is not allowed anywhere on the premises. |

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| **Communication Plan for Staff and Families** |
| This policy is reviewed with families at the time of application, and a copy is provided in the Family Handbook. SUID information is published annually in our newsletter and is available as a handout. This policy is reviewed during annual training and new staff orientation. A copy is also provided in the Staff Handbook. |

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| **Authorized Signatures** |
| We will follow our program’s safe sleep policies, procedures, and practices as outlined in this document.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Director/Owner**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Staff Member(s)** |

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| **Effective Date and Review** | | | | | | | |
| This policy is effective as of \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ and will be reviewed annually, on or before \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.  Families and staff will be notified of upcoming policy reviews. | | | | | | | |
| **Staff Member Name** | **Date Policy Reviewed** | **Staff Initials** | **Date of Original Safe Sleep Training Part 1** | **Date of Original Safe Sleep Training Part 2** | **Date of Annual Safe Sleep Training** | **Date of Annual Policy Review with Staff** | **Date of Crib Recall Checks** |
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**References**

* Administration for Children and Families: Caring for Our Children, National Health and Safety Performance Standards  
  <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/ecd/caring-for-our-children-basics>
* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)  
  <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/>
* First Candle  
  <http://cjfirstcandle.org/>