

Whitewell Bottom CIO – Bouncy Castle Policy

Summary

Whitewell Bottom Community Centre does not provide any insurance for the use of bouncy castles and our insurance policy does not cover use of bouncy castles. WBCC is only responsible for advising hirers that they must put appropriate arrangements in place and cannot accept any responsibility in the event of any accident.

Responsibility

If you're hiring a bouncy castle and inviting guests, you can be held liable if one of them injures themselves. For example, normally there is a limit to the number of children who can use the bouncy castle at any one time. If this is exceeded and an accident occurs, whose insurance covers the accident? You could find yourself being sued. Personal liability insurance eliminates this financial risk. It may already be part of your home insurance policy, so check with your insurance broker or ask the supplier of the Bouncy Castle if public liability insurance can be purchased with your hire.

Insurance is required, and it is the responsibility of the hirer to make sure liability insurance is in place.

Conditions

When booking, the hirer must declare that they intend to have a bouncy castle. This declaration will imply a commitment to make sure that:

- The bouncy castle will be supervised at all times by an adult (over 18).
- Public/Personal liability insurance will be provided either by the supplier or the hirer.
- Castles must only be inside

At the point of booking hall hire, the hirer must confirm that insurance is in place, and must be prepared to provide evidence for this.

WBCC reserves the right to prohibit the use of the castle, or even to cancel the booking if appropriate evidence is not provided on request.

Please understand that these arrangements are being introduced so that the hall trustees and the hirers can be sure that proper insurance is in place enabling hirers to run a happy event, knowing that they are properly insured.

Supervision and Safety Instructions

These instructions have been provided by the Village Hall insurance company. **Hirers** are required to follow these instructions.

1. The castle must be adequately secured;
2. Soft matting covering hard surfaces must be placed adjacent to the front or open sides;
3. There should be responsible adult supervision, paying close attention to the children at play at all times during its use;
4. The number of children using the bouncy castle must be limited to the number recommended in the Hire Company's safety instructions. There must be no overcrowding;
5. A rota system for different age or size groups should be operated together with the observance of any age limit of users (it is suggested that children over 10 years of age should not use the equipment);
6. All children must be made to remove footwear, hard or sharp objects such as jewellery, buckles, pens and other similar pocket contents.
7. Eating while bouncing or performing acrobatics must not be allowed.

Additionally, the **hirer** should ensure that the Hire Company (the **supplier**):

1. Fully complies with the Health and Safety Executive Guidance Note PM76 – “The Safe Operation of Inflatable Bouncing Devices” (this important guide deals with all aspects of safety);
2. Employs suitably experienced and trained adult personnel, where the Company are responsible for setting up, operation and supervision of the bouncy castle;
3. Provides written evidence of a current Public Liability Insurance Policy with a Limit of Indemnity of at least £5 million. This insurance is to cover the liability of the Hire Company. Note that this is unlikely to extend to cover the **hirer** of the equipment.
4. Provides written instructions about the safe setting up, operation and supervision of the equipment, and that the name and address of the manufacturer or supplier is clearly marked upon it.