

Revision of the National Curriculum Standard for Kindergarten, Child-care Guidelines of the Day Care Center and the Course of Study and Guideline of Day care for Integrated Centre for Early Childhood Education and Care Related to Traffic Safety

Background and Purpose of the Revision

In the current national curriculum standard for kindergarten, child-care guidelines of the day care center and the course of study and guideline of day care for integrated centre for early childhood education and care provided for content of education and child-care for kindergartens, day-care centers and certified centers for early childhood education and care, actions concerning safety are described in the content related to the topic "Health".

Based on these, with a long term perspective, the traffic safety guidance or emergency drill etc. are systematically carried out in the kindergartens, day-care centers and certified centers for early childhood education and care. Guidance is provided so that children can act safely in all the situations.

National curriculum standard for kindergarten , child-care guidelines of the day care center and the course of study and guideline of day care for integrated centre for early childhood education and care were revised in March, 2017.

At the time of revision, lessons from natural disasters such as the recent Great East Japan Earthquake were introduced and importance of safety training from the early childhood age before entering the elementary school was pointed out.

Therefore, common description content regarding "should also teach children about traffic safety and be able to take appropriate action at the time of emergency including disasters by taking measures such as conducting evacuation drills" were included in the present revision.

| National curriculum standard for kindergarten | Child-care guidelines of the day care center | Course of study and guideline of day care for integrated centre for early childhood education and care |
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| 2017 Notification no. 62 of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology | 2017 Notification no. 117 of Ministry of Labor and Welfare | 2017 Notification no. 1 of the Cabinet Office, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Labor and Welfare |
| Chapter 2 Aims and Contents Health 3 Dealing with the Content (6) With regard to safety-related instruction, kindergartens should encourage children to maintain emotional stability, to acquire safety preparedness through play, and to learn about dangerous places and things. Kindergartens should also teach children about <u>traffic safety</u> and be able to take appropriate action at the time of emergency including disasters by taking measures such as conducting evacuation drills. | Chapter 2 Contents of child care 3 Aim and contents related to child-care of children of age 3 or more Health (C) Dealing with the Content ○ With regard to safety-related instruction, kindergartens should encourage children to maintain emotional stability, to acquire safety preparedness through play, and to learn about dangerous places and things. Kindergartens should also teach children about <u>traffic safety</u> and be able to take appropriate action at the time of emergency including disasters by taking measures such as conducting evacuation drills. | Chapter 2 Aim, content, and considerations 3 Aim and content related to education of kindergarten children who have completed 3 years and more Health 3 Dealing with the Content (6) With regard to safety-related instruction, kindergartens should encourage children to maintain emotional stability, to acquire safety preparedness through play, and to learn about dangerous places and things. Kindergartens should also teach children about <u>traffic safety</u> and be able to take appropriate action at the time of emergency including disasters by taking measures such as conducting evacuation drills. |

Examples of Safety Education Including Viewpoints of Traffic Safety in Preschool Education and Childcare

In kindergartens and the like, guidance is given to make young children act safely through every situation.

For example, the guidance is given through daily education activities such as,

- The children are encouraged to move their bodies-fully through various kinds of play, so that the children are be able to move their bodies in the expected way.
- Daily safety instructions such as 'No running in the kindergarten premises' are linked to following traffic rules and thus the children are encouraged to gain an awareness regarding safe actions.

Moreover, in some cases the guidance is given to the children with cooperation of concerned institutions such as police using actual roads or simulated traffic signals so that the children understand the traffic rules such as how to cross at a pedestrian crossing or meaning of the traffic signal lights, before completing kindergarten and as a preparation of going to the elementary school.

Efforts to be Taken in the Future

For enforcement of national curriculum standard for kindergarten , child-care guidelines of the day care center and the course of study and guideline of day care for integrated centre for early childhood education and care , in April, 2018, outline pf the course of study for kindergarten, child-care guidelines of the day care center and the course of study and guideline of day care for integrated centre for early childhood education and care and outline of are extensively published to municipalities, kindergartens, day-care centers and certified centers so that children can act safely .

