



Supportmatch
Homeshare Service

www.supportmatch.co.uk

Supportmatch Homeshare – Health and Safety Policy Summary

Policy Title: Health and Safety

Issued: October 2020

Revised: October 2023

Reviewed: October 2025

1. Purpose

To ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of all individuals involved in the Homeshare programme, including Householders, Homesharers, Supportmatch staff, contractors, and visitors.

2. Legal Context

While the **Health and Safety at Work Act 1974** does not directly apply to non-employees (Householders and Homesharers), **Supportmatch** has a duty of care to prevent:

- Physical harm or injury
- Illness or poor mental health
- Abuse or neglect
- Property damage or theft
- Reputational harm
- Death

3. Responsibilities

Supportmatch will:

- Provide guidance, training, and regular supervision.
- Carry out and review annual accommodation safety checks.
- Respond promptly to reports of risk or incidents.

Householders are responsible for:

- Keeping the home safe and hazard-free.
- Reporting any risks, incidents, or accidents.
- Cooperating with the annual safety review.

All parties must:

- Understand their role in promoting safety.
- Follow agreed safe practices.
- Participate in annual checks and respond to guidance.



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Accommodation Safety Checklist (Summary Format)

Assessment Date: _____

Name of Householder: _____

Address: _____

Assessor's Name: _____

Photos Taken with Permission: Yes / No

A. Property Safety Checks

| Assessment Item | Yes / No | Details (if applicable) |
|--|----------|-------------------------|
| General condition of property | Yes / No | |
| Damp or mould present | Yes / No | |
| Working central heating | Yes / No | |
| Adequate ventilation and natural light | Yes / No | |
| Secure windows and doors | Yes / No | |
| Safe appliances and electrical sockets | Yes / No | |
| Ventilation in bathroom/kitchen | Yes / No | |
| Adequate internal/external lighting | Yes / No | |
| Drainage or waste issues | Yes / No | |
| Safe stairs and banisters | Yes / No | |
| Trip hazards present | Yes / No | |
| Repairs needed | Yes / No | |
| Other safety concerns | Yes / No | |



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B. Additional Property Information

| Item | Response |
|--|----------|
| Number of bedrooms | |
| Number of shared living rooms | |
| Size of Homesharer's bedroom | |
| Bed type (Single/Double) | |
| Additional furniture in bedroom | |
| Concerns in area (e.g. crime, isolation) | |
| Access to public transport | |
| Parking arrangements (on/off-street, permit) | |
| Broadband available | Yes / No |

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