



D O W N H A M
M A R K E T

T O W N C O U N C I L

Bouncy Castle Policy
(INSIDE USE ONLY)

Date of Adoption: 1 October 2024

1. SUMMARY

Downham Market Town Council (the Council) does not provide any insurance for the use of bouncy castles and our insurance policy does not cover the use of bouncy castles.

The Council is only responsible for advising hirers they that must put appropriate arrangements in place and cannot accept any responsibility in the event of any accident.

2. RESPONSIBILITY

If anyone uses a bouncy castle on council property it is likely that they will be liable if someone is injured. Personal liability insurance would eliminate this financial risk. This may already be part of a home insurance policy. Hirers must check with their insurance broker/company or ask the supplier of the bouncy castle if public liability insurance can be purchased with any hire.

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

3. CONDITIONS

The Council must be informed when a bouncy castle is to be used on its property/land. **Use of a bouncy castle externally is strictly prohibited.** The hirer of the bouncy castle must make a commitment to ensure that:

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

The hirer (or operator) of the bouncy castle must confirm that insurance is in place and must be prepared to provide evidence for this. **Please note:** only one bouncy castle will be allowed at a time.

The Council reserves the right to prohibit the use of the bouncy castle, or even to cancel the booking if appropriate evidence is not provided upon request.

The hirer agrees to cover the cost of repairs up to and including a full replacement of any part of the property damaged by the use of inflatable equipment over the duration of the hire.

These arrangements are in place to ensure that everyone is protected and can enjoy the event in the knowledge that proper insurance is in place and the risks are managed.

4. SUPERVISION AND SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions are based on best practice and are suggestions to help hirers managed the equipment:

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 children at play at 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. Bouncy castle users, when using slides, must wear clothing to cover limbs. (This is to prevent burns).
8. Eating and drinking while bouncing or performing acrobatics must not be allowed.

It is recommended that the hirer ensures that the Hire Company (the supplier) 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).

END