

Home Safety Checklist for ESE Families

Use this checklist to help create a safer home environment for your child. Check off each item as it is completed.

Mobility & Fall Prevention

- Keep pathways wide and clear for walkers, wheelchairs, or braces by removing loose rugs and trailing cords.
- Install sturdy handrails and safety gates on stairs or uneven floor transitions.
- Secure heavy furniture, bookshelves, and televisions to the wall to prevent tip-overs.
- Add soft edge and corner guards to low tables and counters if your child is prone to falls.

Bathroom & Kitchen Safety

- Set your water heater to 120°F (49°C) or lower to help prevent scalding.
- Install non-skid mats inside and outside the bathtub and add grab bars if needed.
- Use stove knob covers, turn pot handles toward the back of the stove, and limit kitchen access while cooking.
- Lock cleaning supplies, sharp utensils, and medications in secure, latched cabinets.

Sensory, Cognitive & Elopement Safeguards

- Install high latches, chimes, or door/window alarms to reduce the risk of wandering or elopement.
- Cover electrical outlets with tamper-resistant covers or plug protectors.
- Choose cordless window treatments or keep cords completely out of reach.
- Store medical equipment, oxygen tanks, or feeding supplies securely and away from high-traffic areas.

Tip: Review this checklist every few months as your child's needs and abilities change.