

Thurrock Council

Conditions for registration of tattoo / skin piercing premises

Revision version 1a

These conditions apply to and should be read in conjunction with the registration document and any additional documentation issued with it.

Registered practitioners are to keep up to date with best practice and guidance and apply these principles.

Please refer to the **Tattooing and Body Piercing Guidance Toolkit ISBN 978-1-906989-72-9**.

1. Premises

- 1.1. The treatment area must solely be used for giving treatments and must be completely separated from all other rooms – for example, any room used for human habitation, catering establishment, hair salon, retail sales or other – by full height walls or partitions. Suitable screening should be available to provide client privacy.
- 1.2. All internal walls, doors, windows, partitions, floors and floor coverings, and ceilings are kept clean and in such good repair as to enable them to be cleaned effectively.
- 1.3. The floor of the treatment area is provided with a smooth impervious surface.
- 1.4. All furniture and fittings in the premises are kept clean and in such good repair as to enable them to be cleaned effectively.
- 1.5. The proprietor shall keep any electrical or other apparatus installed in the establishment maintained in an efficient and safe condition. All portable electrical equipment should be tested on an annual basis. Any mains electricity supply to the premise should be tested every 5 years. Evidence of certification shall be produced by the proprietor at the request of an authorised officer of the council.
- 1.6. Suitable and sufficient means of heating to a reasonable room temperature, appropriate to the treatment offered, must be provided.
- 1.7. The premises must be adequately ventilated.
- 1.8. A suitable no smoking sign should be displayed on all external doors into the premises, as required by the Health Act 2006.
- 1.9. Suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation for operators and clients shall be provided within the premise.
- 1.10. No animal of any kind should be permitted in a treatment area, except service animals used by persons with disabilities, for example guide dogs for the blind.
- 1.11. A suitably stocked and up to date first aid kit should be on site.

- 1.12. The premises, including all treatment areas, shall be open to inspection at all times when the premises are in use by a police officer in uniform or authorised officer of the council on production of his authority if requested.

2. Cleanliness

- 2.1. All tables, couches and seats used by clients in the treatment area, and any surface on which any equipment for treatment is placed immediately prior to treatment, have a smooth impervious surface which is wiped down at least daily with a suitable disinfectant and between the treatment of different clients and thoroughly cleaned at the end of each working day.
- 2.2. Where tables and couches are used, they shall be covered by a disposable paper sheet which shall be changed for each client.
- 2.3. An operator whilst giving treatment shall ensure that their hands and nails are clean and nails are kept short.
- 2.4. An operator whilst giving treatment shall ensure that they are wearing clean and washable clothing and a disposable covering that has not previously been used in connection with any other client.
- 2.5. An operator whilst giving treatment shall ensure that they keep any open boil, sore, cut or open wound on an exposed part of his body effectively covered by an impermeable dressing.
- 2.6. An operator whilst giving treatment shall ensure that they do not smoke or consume food or drink.
- 2.7. Any treatment room within a premise used for skin piercing activities should have access to a permanently fitted and fully plumbed in wash hand basin with potable hot and cold water. This is for the sole use of skin piercing activities only. This is in addition to the wash hand basin in the water closet, kitchen sink and decontamination sink. Taps should preferably be wrist, foot or sensor operated.
- 2.8. There must be adequate, clean and suitable storage for all items, so as to avoid, as far as possible, the risk of contamination.

3. Sterilisation

- 3.1. It is preferable that single use sterile pre-sealed needles, instruments and jewellery or similar is used in preference to items that require sterilisation at the registered premise.
- 3.2. An operator shall ensure that, before use in connection with treatment, any gown, wrap or other protective clothing, paper or other covering, towel, cloth or other such articles used in the treatment is clean and in good repair and so far as is appropriate, is sterile and has not previously been used in connection with any other client, unless it consists of a material which can be and has been adequately cleaned and, insofar as is appropriate, sterile.
- 3.3. Any needle, metal instrument, or other item or equipment, used in treatment, or for handling instruments and needles used in treatment, is in a sterile condition and kept sterile until it is used.

- 3.4. Dyes and Inks used for tattooing are bacteriologically clean and inert and data sheet for these are held on the premise.
- 3.5. Single use cups or containers are used to hold the dyes for each customer and are disposed of at the end of each session of treatment and are not sterilised for re-use.
- 3.6. Adequate facilities and equipment for the purpose of cleansing and sterilisation – unless pre-sterilised items are used – is provided. This should follow the latest guidance and all staff using such equipment shall be trained in its use and best sterilising practice.

4. Waste

- 4.1. All waste materials, and other litter arising from the treatment, classed as clinical waste, shall be placed in suitable covered receptacles, which is washable and leak-proof, or use a leak-proof liner bag. The receptacles shall be emptied, or the bags changed, at least once every working day, or more frequently as necessary, and the material disposed of safely by a licenced waste contractor. Where liners are not used, the receptacles shall then be cleaned.
- 4.2. All needles used in treatment are placed after use, in separate covered and leak-proof re-usable boxes or disposable needle boxes designed for the purpose. Where re-usable boxes are used they shall be emptied at least once every working day or more frequently as necessary, and the contents disposed of safely or sterilised for re-use, as appropriate. The boxes shall then be sterilised. Where needle boxes are used they shall be disposed of safely at suitable intervals by a licenced waste contractor.

5. Age restriction

- 5.1. Any premise where age restrictions apply to the treatment provided, such as tattooing, must keep records of clients and be able to demonstrate that the age restriction is being applied.