

Safety & Suitability of Premises, Environment and Equipment

Animals in the setting



Policy statement

Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. This may include contact with animals, or other living creatures, either in the setting or on visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

Procedures

Animals in the Setting-visiting

- We carry out a risk assessment with a knowledgeable person accounting for any hygiene or safety risks posed by the animal or creature.
- Children are taught correct handling and care of the animal or creature and are supervised.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding.
- Staff wear disposable gloves when cleaning housing or handling soiled bedding.
- If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children, they are the responsibility of the owner.
- The owner carries out a risk assessment, detailing how the animal or creature is to be handled and how any safety issues will be addressed.
- No dogs on the Government's Banned Dogs list are to be brought on site at any time. All other dogs brought on site by parents during arrival and departure times must be on a lead and under control. The manager reserves the right to request that a dog is not brought on site, if the animal appears to be out of control, or likely to pose a risk.
- If staff are concerned that a family owns a dog which is on the 'banned dog' list, it is treated as a safeguarding concern and it is reported to the relevant authority and safeguarding procedures are followed.

Visits to farms

- Before a visit to a farm a risk assessment is carried out. This may take account of safety factors listed in the farm's own risk assessment which should be viewed.
- The supervision of children on outings procedure is followed.
- Children wash their hands after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit is cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors.

Legal framework

The management of Health and Safety at work regulations 1999

Further guidance

[Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control](#) (Alliance Publication)

<https://www.gov.uk/control-dog-public/banned-dogs>

Health and Safety regulation...a short guide

www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsc13.pdf

A copy of the policy will be kept in the Preschool hall.

Authorisation & Review

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Wroughton Preschool

Held on

Date to be reviewed

Signed on behalf of the management
committee

Name of signatory

Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)

Yearly at AGM

Chairperson