

Animals in Nursery Policy

We work within the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), published by the Department for Education (DfE) in March 2021, effective from September 2021

Links to:

Management of Health and Safety at Work Regs 1999	Animal Welfare 2010 to 2015
Health and Safety Regulations 2003	Public Health Act (Control of Diseases) 1984
Allergy Policy	Health and Hygiene Policy
RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013)	

Children learn about the natural environment, 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 during outings/visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

Procedures

Animals in the setting as pets

- We take account of the views of parents and children when selecting an animal or creature to keep as a pet in the setting.
- We carry out a risk assessment with a knowledgeable person accounting for any hygiene, allergies or safety risks posed by the animal or creature.
- We provide suitable housing for the animal or creature and ensure it is cleaned out regularly and kept safely.
- We ensure the correct food is offer at the right times.
- We make arrangements for weekend and holiday care for the animal or creature.
- Children are taught correct handling and care of the animal or creature and are always 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 or other parents 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 or hygiene issues will be addressed.

Visits to farms

- Before a visit to a farm a risk assessment is carried out by a staff member – this may take account of safety factors listed in the farm’s own risk assessment which should be viewed.

Merry-go-Round Day Nursery Policy

- The outings procedure is followed.
- Children wash their hands after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to the farms are cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors.

Adoption Date: 1st September 2020.

Signed:

Nm Orel .

Annual Review

Reviewed 1st September 2021

Reviewed 1st September 2022

Reviewed 1st September 2023

Next review 1st September 2024