

Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Safety and Suitability of Premises, Environment and Equipment

Providers must keep premises and equipment clean, and be aware of, and comply with, requirements of health and safety legislation (including hygiene requirements).



8.6 Animals in the setting

Policy statement

Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the Learning and Development Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. 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 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 or safety risks posed by the animal or creature.
- We provide suitable housing for the animal or creature and ensure this is cleaned out regularly and is kept safely.
- We ensure the correct food is offered, 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 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 their owner.

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 outings procedure is followed.
- Children wash their hands after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit farms 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

- Health and Safety Regulation...A Short Guide (HSE 2003)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	Foundry Lane Community Playgroup Management Committee
Held On	15 th July 2009
To be reviewed	Annually
Signed for and on behalf of Foundry Lane Community Playgroup Management Committee	
Name of Signatory	K.Heath
Role of Signatory	Chairperson

Review Date	Reviewed By (Name)	Role	Signed
05/01/12	V.Whybrew	Chairperson	
19/06/12	B.Angel	Chairperson	
28.02.13	B. Angel	Chairperson	
31.01.15	C. Carstairs	Treasurer	
20.05.16	S. Andrade	Chair	
19.07.17	J. Tanner	Chair	
18.07.18	J. Tanner	Chair	
15.07.19	J. Stephens	Chair	
10.07.2020	J. Stephens	Chair	