



Outdoor Policy and Procedures

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OUTDOOR POLICY AND PROCEDURES

PRINCIPLES

Outdoor play is essential for all aspects of a child's development. It can provide children with experiences that enable them to develop intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically and encourages positive attitudes towards a healthy lifestyle.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To enhance children's appreciation of the natural world and extend their learning experiences.
- To provide a healthy environment in which children can learn and develop.
- To allow the children to experience different seasons, to enjoy the fresh air.
- To stimulate brain activity by using the senses and improve motor skills.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- The outdoor spaces will have an annual risk assessment check as well as new risk assessments every time a new piece of equipment or area is introduced.
- At the start of each morning session a member of staff will be responsible for Health and Safety. Checks should be completed before children enter the site and all areas at the end of the day must be cleared of resources and the resources stored in an appropriate area.
- Staff will encourage children to take part in risk taking activities with good supervision.
- Hot day/ summer - Sun cream should be applied by parents at the beginning of the day. Sun cream should be reapplied frequently in excessively hot weather or after being in water.
- Staff must provide shaded areas during the hottest part of the day. Children to bring water bottles. This also applies to staff and adults.
- Parents for each child should provide sun hat.
- Staff and adults should also wear sun cream, sun hats or sunglasses as appropriate.
- During wet, cold weather children should wear appropriate clothing such as waterproofs, wellington boots, hats, scarves and gloves
- In the event of a fire, follow the procedure and meet at assembly point
- Because of our tick policy: Children and adults wear protective clothing, particularly whilst in the woodland areas. This includes covering arms and legs, ankles, etc. Shoes or boots should be worn on the feet, no open toed shoes/sandals.

STAFFING RATIOS

- Staff members to be in correct ratio at all times outdoors with children.
- See GOV link for information on correct staffing ratios: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/974907/EYFS_framework_-_March_2021.pdf Pgs. 28-32

- Every staff member should be vigilant of all children if they are in danger of hurting themselves.
- If only one member of staff on duty, setting must still be able to meet all the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Register. See: <https://outofschoolalliance.co.uk/minimum-staff-numbers>

GENERAL ARC, SIDE GARDEN, MAGIC GLADE PROCEDURES

- All resources should be cleaned on a regular basis.
- Ensure any parts of the site that need attention are logged in and landlords informed.

WOODLAND AND FARM AREA

- Staff can take groups of children through the farm and woodland areas to the magic glade (woodland area) every day.
- Staff must take first aid box, contact details and mobile.
- Children never left unattended.
- Although during the walk to the Magic Glade there is no physical fencing, boundaries are instilled through repetition and routine and children act accordingly.
- The pond area is out of bounds unless children are supervised by staff.
- Any other areas that are out of bounds will be taped/roped off accordingly.