

## **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).



Registered Charity No. 1022409

### **8.6 Animals in the setting**

#### **Promoting health and hygiene**

##### **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 in visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

###### **Procedures**

###### *Animals in the setting as pets*

- No pets are kept in the setting
- Parents and carers must not bring pets onto the drive or into the preschool hall.
- 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 or hygiene issues will be addressed.
- Parents will have advance warning if animals are to be brought into the setting for an arranged educational visit.
- We always teach children the correct handling and care of the animal or creature and supervise them.
- We ensure that children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding

###### *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 are cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors.
- We contact the venue in advance of the visit to ensure that there has been no recent outbreak of E coli or other infections. If there has been an outbreak, we will review the visit and may decide to postpone it
- We advise staff and volunteers who are or may be pregnant to avoid contact with ewes and to consult their GP before a visit.

This policy was adopted 13/2/2020

on

Date to be reviewed Spring 2023

Signed by committee  
chairperson

Signed by preschool  
leader