

Outside Play Policy

Statement of intent

This setting believes that the health and safety of the children and staff in our setting during outside play is of paramount importance. We believe it is the right of every child to be able to access the full curriculum outside if they so wish, depending of course on the weather and our facilities.

Aims

The aim of this policy is to inform practitioners and parent/carers of the procedures taken for the children to safely access the outside area.

Methods

As part of the EYFS guidelines we are obliged to provide access to all areas of the curriculum both inside and out.

As part of our daily risk assessment checks, (see risk assessment policy) the outside area is checked prior to use for any rubbish, faeces or anything else that may cause harm or be deemed dangerous and is subsequently removed or where necessary fenced off.

With regard to plants and flowers, all children are reminded of the dangers of touching / eating any of the plants and we contact the church should there be any major concerns over the safety of the outside area.

As we are based within rented church halls, we are subject to the Church's discretion as to whether the outside area may be used during periods of inclement weather.

When accessing the outside area, we ensure the children are suitably clothed for the conditions, with coats, hats and suitable footwear for winter weather and hats and suncream for warm days. We request that parents/carers provide hats for the children but we do have a supply should these be left at home.

Suncream

We do ask all parents/carers for their permission on our initial registration form for us to apply suncream to their children and we also make it known that they may provide their own suncream in a named bottle if they so choose. (This information is shown on the child's individual record)

Suncream is applied to all children before going outside and is reapplied as necessary.

All children have access to fresh water and are brought back inside the setting should the temperature get too high.

Toileting

We remind all children before going outside that they need to inform an adult if they are going to use the toilet and report back when they have finished. Any smaller children are escorted to and from the toilet as they would if they were involved in inside play.

