



**Playhouse Pre-school
Broadwater**

Animals in the Setting Policy

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Statement of intent

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 Playhouse Pre-School or on visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Developing
1.2 Inclusive practice	2.1 Respecting each other	3.2 Supporting every child	
1.3 keeping safe		3.4 The wider context	
1.4 Health and well-being			

Procedures

Animals in Playhouse Pre-School as pets

- We would take account of the views of parents and children when selecting an animal or creature to keep as a pet in Playhouse Pre-School.
- We would carry out a risk assessment with a knowledgeable person accounting for any hygiene or safety risks posed by the animal or creature.
- We would provide suitable housing for the animal or creature and ensure this is cleaned out regularly and is kept safely.
- We will ensure the correct food is offered at the right times.
- We will make arrangements for weekend and holiday care for the animal or creature.
- We would register with the local vet and take out appropriate pet care health insurance.
- We will make sure all vaccinations and other regular health measures, such as de-worming are up-to-date and recorded.
- 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.

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- If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children they will be made aware of our policy and procedure. Playhouse Pre-School will carry a risk assessment, detailing how the animal or creature is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues will be addressed.
- Notices will go out to inform parents of their visit and which animals are visiting.
- Children will wash their hands and be made aware of the safety procedures
- When hatching eggs or rearing caterpillars, we follow up to date guidelines and risk assessments as provided by the companies used.

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.

Legal framework

- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si1999/19993242.htm

Further guidance

- Health and Safety Regulation...a short guide (HSE 2003)
www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsc13.pdf

This policy was agreed by the staff of Playhouse Pre-School Broadwater.

Adopted on 12th May 2016 and will be reviewed annually.

Reviewed on 7th July 2023 by Z. Munford