

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 this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

Procedures

Animals visiting 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 make sure that all animals visiting the setting have had all relevant vaccinations and are free from infections or infestations.
- Children are taught correct handling and care of animal or creatures and are supervised at all times.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding.
- All Animals or creatures brought into The Island Day Nursery by visitors to show the children are the responsibility of the owner.

Visits to farms and Animal centres

- Before a visit takes place a risk assessment is carried out – this may take account of safety factors listed in the centres 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 animal settings is cleaned of mud and debris and must not be worn indoors.

Legal Framework

- The management of Health and safety at work regulations 1999
www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si1999/19993242.htm

Persons responsible for implementing this policy:

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