

Animals at the Pre-School Policy and Risk Assessment.

Flying Start Pre-School

Children learn about the natural world, its animals & 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 Pre-School or on visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene & safety controls. We are aware that the potential risks of having animals are bites, scratches, infections & allergies. And will take the appropriate measures to minimise risks through the following procedures.

- Parents are informed of our animals & any visiting animals to the nursery to establish if any phobias or allergies exist.
- We seek information & knowledge in regard hygiene or safety risks posed by the animal or creature.
- We provide suitable housing for the animal or creature & ensure this is cleaned out regularly & is kept safely.
- We ensure the correct food is offered at the right times.
- We make arrangements for weekend and holiday care for the animal or creature.
- We make sure that if any animal requires veterinary care this is dealt with & recorded.
- Children are taught good hygiene & the correct handling and care of the animal or creature & are supervised.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature.
- Staff wear disposable gloves when cleaning housing or handling soiled bedding.
- If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show children they are the responsibility of the owner.
- If animals or creatures come into contact with floors & surfaces, staff will ensure that these are cleaned afterwards.
- Carefully wash any bites or scratches, if in any doubt seek medical advice.
- Warn children not to put their hands in or near their mouths.

Known Contact

- Flying Start Preschool has a pet African Snail called Speedy
- During the Spring Term, we have chicken eggs supplied by 'Living Eggs.'
- During the Summer Term, we are visited by Mill Cottage Farm Experience

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery
07/01/2024	<i>Sarah Maynard</i>