



# Caterpillars Pre-School

Animals Policy

October 2018



## Policy statement

Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. 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 visiting pets*

- 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.
- The animal is 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.

### *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 and dry their hands thoroughly after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit farms is cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors.

This policy was adopted by the Caterpillars Pre-School Committee

In	October 2018
Date to be reviewed	October 2019
Signed on behalf of the management committee	
Name of signatory	Dan Mitchell
Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)	Chair of the Committee