



Caterpillars Pre-School

Animals Policy

October 2019

Updated May 2020



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.

Covid-19 Outbreak

As the setting may have to close at short notice at any time during the Covid-19 outbreak, alternative arrangements will be put in place for any pets and animals that currently inhabit the setting. New animals or pets will not be taken on during the COVID-19 outbreak.

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 Caterpillars Pre-School

In

November 2019

And updated in

May 2020

Date to be reviewed

October 2020

Signed on behalf of the management committee

Name of signatory

Matthew Doonan

Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)

Chair of the Committee

