



## Our Environmental Sustainability Policy

At Little Gillies we wish to support children to learn about sustainable practices and foster respect and care for the living and non-living environment.

Children are able to develop positive attitudes and values about sustainable practices by exploring solutions to environmental issues, learning about the world around them and how to protect it and watching adult's role model sustainable practices.

We promote a holistic, open ended curriculum which explores ideas and practices for environmental sustainability and helps children understand the interdependence between people and the environment by:

- helping children to explore nature through art and play
- supporting children to experience the natural environment through natural materials
- supporting the environment by learning how to grow and nurture plants in the nursery garden and discovering all about the food cycle by growing, harvesting, and cooking food for our nursery menu
- helping children to learn about water conservation, energy efficiency and waste reduction through play-based activities and adult interactions
- going on nature walks and learning about plants they see in the local area
- developing a recycling area and encouraging children to share recycling ethos into the home environment.

As a nursery we will embed sustainability into all aspects of the operations including:

- recycling materials for art and creative activities and encouraging parents to bring in their recycling materials for the same use
- considering our carbon footprint when purchasing materials
- shopping local where possible
- turning off equipment and lights when not in use
- not leaving any equipment on standby
- unplugging all equipment at the end of its use/the day
- using energy saving wash cycles on the washing machine
- hanging washing out to dry/using clothes horses rather than tumble dryers where possible
- incorporating water-wise strategies such as ensuring taps are turned off and leaks fixed
- using rain water butts for watering plants
- recycling water from the water play to water plants outside
- using food that we have grown



8.16 environmental sustainability

Working together with all our parents and partners will help our environment to be more sustainable and make it a better place for our future generations to grow up in.

We assess our nursery’s impact on the environment on a regular basis and put procedures in place to counteract this impact.

All policies and procedures are implemented, reviewed and updated on an annual basis or in line with any changes to local and national guidance/legislation in conjunction with the registered person.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Little Gillies

Held on.....

Date to reviewed .....

Signed on behalf of the provider.....

Name of signatory.....

Role of signatory.....

Reviewed by Sarah Beresford

Date June 2023