



## 8.7 Animals in the Setting

### Animals in the Setting

#### Policy Statement

Children learn about the Natural World, it's 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 on visits.

We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with the sensible hygiene and safety controls.

#### Policy Procedures

##### Animals in the setting as pets

- We take account of the views of parents and children when selecting an animal or creature to keep as a pet
- We carry out a risk assessment with a knowledgeable person accounting for any hygiene or safety risks posed by the animal or creature
- Provide suitable housing that is cleaned regularly and kept safely
- The correct food is offered at the right times
- We plan for weekend and holiday care
- We register with a local vet
- We make sure all vaccinations and other regular health measures are up to date
- Children are taught correct handling
- Children wash their hands after handling and do not have contact with the animal faeces or soiled bedding
- Staff wear PPE when cleaning
- If animals are brought in by visitors to show the children, they are responsible for them. They will carry out a risk assessment dealing with how the animal is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues will be addressed

##### Visits to a farm

- Before a visit to a farm, a risk assessment is carried out in accordance with the farms own risk assessment
- Outings procedure is followed
- children wash their hands after contact with animals
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit the farms is cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors

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.



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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 August 2024