



Outside Areas

- All gates and fences are safe and secure.
- Outside areas are checked daily to make sure animal droppings, litter etc. is removed. Staff wear rubber gloves to do this.
- Bushes or overhanging trees are checked to ensure they do not bear poisonous berries.
- Stinging nettles and brambles are removed.
- Wooden equipment is maintained safely and not used if broken.
- Broken climbing equipment or outdoor toys are removed and reported to the setting manager.
- Children are always supervised within staff:child ratios outside.
- Children are suitably attired for the weather conditions and type of outdoor activities.
- Staff ensure children have sun cream applied on daily attendance to the setting and sun cream, provided by parents/carers, is re-applied by staff after lunch club for children attending full day sessions during the summer months. Sun hats are always worn for outdoor play.
- Children who have no adequate means of sun protection, such as a hat or sun cream, will not be able to play outdoors in un-shaded areas. Light clothing with long sleeves and trousers is recommended.
- Children are always supervised on climbing equipment.
- Water used for water play is not left out and is cleared and cleaned daily.
- Sightings of vermin are recorded and reported to the setting manager who reports to the Environmental Health's Pest Control Department.
- Outdoor areas that have flooded are not used until cleaned down and restored. Grassed areas are risk assessed and not played on.
- If paddling pools are used, a risk assessment is conducted, and consideration given to the needs of disabled children or those less ambulant.

Drones

If there are concerns about a 'drone' being flown over the outdoor area, that may compromise children's safety or privacy, the setting manager will contact the non-emergency police on 101.

- Children will be brought inside immediately.
- The police will have their own procedures to follow and staff will follow their advice and act accordingly.
- If at any point following the incident, photographs taken by a drone emerge on social media that could identify the nursery or individual children, these are reported to the police.
- A record is completed in the Notifiable Incident Record unless there is reason to believe that the incident might have safeguarding implications, for example:
 - the drone has hovered specifically over the outdoor area for any length of time
 - there is a likelihood that images of the children have been recorded
 - is spotted on more than one occasion
 - if the Police believe there is cause for concern

Where this is the case, Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults' procedures are followed.

This policy was adopted by Acorn Playgroup and Pre-school on 01 September 2023