

Sunbeams Play

Registered Charity No. 1152188

Health & Safety

20. Animals in the Setting.

Policy Statement

Children and young people learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of their wider education. 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

- We would take account of the views of parents/carers, children and young people when selecting an animal or creature to keep as a pet in the setting.
- We would carry out a risk assessment with a knowledgeable person accounting for any hygiene or safety risks posed by the animal or creature.
- We would provide suitable housing for the animal or creature and ensure this is cleaned out regularly and is kept safely.
- We would ensure the correct food is offered at the right times.
- We would make arrangements for weekend and holiday care for the animal or creature.
- We would register with the local vet and take out appropriate pet care health insurance.
- We would make sure all vaccinations and other regular health measures, such as de-worming are up-to-date and recorded, and would make sure;
- Children and young people are taught correct handling and care of the animal or creature and are supervised.
- Children and young people wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding.
- Staff wear disposable gloves when cleaning housing or handling soiled bedding.
- If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children/ young people they are 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

Legal framework

- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999
www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si1999/19993242.htm

Further guidance

- *Health and Safety Regulation...a short guide* (HSE 2003)
www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsc13.pdf

This policy was adopted on

20th April 2015

Policy updated

April 2020

Date to be reviewed

April 2021

Signed on behalf of the management committee

Name of Signatory

Role of Signatory

Reviewed By	Date