Health and Safety

This policy is in place to manage the health and safety of children, in line with the requirements laid out in the EYFS Framework.

We are required by law to protect employees and others from harm and are committed to managing health and safety of children, families, staff, and visitors.

This policy details our aims and provides the practical arrangements including training, risk assessments, safety signs and equipment so that we can achieve these.

The procedure also lists the names, positions and roles of the people who have specific responsibilities for health and safety including who does what, when and how.

We have robust systems in place to ensure the environment and equipment on the premises is fit for purpose, safe and suitable for the ages and/or stages of children.

Safeguarding & Welfare

- We take responsible steps to ensure the safety of children, families, staff, and visitors at all times.
- Our setting meets the floor space requirements as stated in the EYFS.
- Regular risk assessments are carried out, in line with health and safety legislation to ensure indoor and outdoor space is suitable and meets the needs of children. These assessments are designed to identify hazards and manage risks in relation to specific activities, resources, and equipment. Our risk assessments are completed in written form for the everyday large risk assessments, and on an ongoing dynamic basis for other risks. Risk assessments inform staff practice and written copies are available to parents/carers, inspectors and other professionals if required.
- Risk assessments identify all areas of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis, minimising and removing risks as appropriate whist recognising that children also need to be able to take relevant risks.
- We have appropriate insurance in place, including Public Liability Insurance. Insurance is reviewed and renewed to cover all premises where we provide childcare.
- We ensure that induction and ongoing supervision of all staff meets the requirements of the EYFS and is of a high standard, so they are competent and able to safely undertake their roles and responsibilities.
- We have a nominated health and safety lead and while staff are trained to take reasonable care for their own health and safety, any concerns are reported to the health and safety lead.
- We ensure suitable access for children, parents/carers, staff, and visitors in line with the legal requirements and SEND Code of Practice.
- No smoking, or vaping is allowed by staff or parents/carers, in or on the premises.
- We provide access to outdoor play or outdoor activities on a daily basis, in line with risk assessments.

- Sleeping children are adequately provided for and frequently checked - staff in sleeping areas are all sleep safe ambassador trained.
- There is a separate area for children under the age of two, providing them with a space to attend away from the older children.
- All toilets, hand basins and changing facilities are adequate, hygienic, have sufficient supplies, appropriate storage, and other necessary items, including PPE, and are always available.
- We take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, see the sickness and infection policy.
- Staff are aware of all children's whereabouts, at all times, whilst on the premises, ensuring children never leave the premises unsupervised.
- We carry out a fire safety risk assessment to identify sources of ignition and flammable substances and inform a procedure should an emergency situation occur, see the Emergency in the Workplace Policy.
- We ensure appropriate fire detection and control equipment (for example, fire alarms, smoke detectors, fire blankets and/or fire extinguishers) are in working order and serviced as required according to instructions and legal requirements.
- Fire exits are clearly identifiable and fire doors must be free of obstruction and easily opened from the inside.
- Our Emergency in the Workplace Policy details what need to happen in the event of an emergency.
- All substances used within the setting are subject to COSHH regulations, and all information is kept on site.
- All staff have received health and safety training, and are aware of their responsibilities to the children and to themselves, including manual handling, personal care, use of PPE etc.

Other policies and procedures which tie into health and safety and should be viewed are:

- Risk Assessments
- Manual handling
- Medications
- Food and Drink
- Accident and Injuries, including RIDDOR.

This policy was reviewed in	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
September 2026	*Elizabeth Ross-Whittall*	*September 2027*