

## **Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Safety and Suitability of Premises, Environment and Equipment**

Providers must keep premises and equipment clean, and be aware of, and comply with, requirements of health and safety legislation (including hygiene requirements).



### **8.6 Animals in the setting**

#### **Policy statement**

Children learn about the natural world, its 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 sensible hygiene and safety controls.

#### **Procedures**

##### *Animals visiting the setting*

- We take account of the views of parents and children when selecting animals or creatures to visit the setting.
- We make sure all vaccinations and other regular health measures, such as de-worming, are up-to-date and recorded.
- Children are taught correct handling and care of the animal or creature and are supervised.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding.
- If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children, they are the responsibility of their 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.

##### *Visits to farms*

- Before a visit to a farm, a risk assessment is carried out - this may take account of safety factors listed in the farm's own risk assessment, which should be viewed.
- The outings procedure is followed.
- Children wash their hands after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit farms is cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors.

## Legal framework

- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)

## Further guidance

- Health and Safety Regulation...A Short Guide (HSE 2003)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	Nomansland Pre-school
Held on	8 <sup>th</sup> May 2013
Reviewed	May 2020
Date to be reviewed	May 2021
Signed on behalf of the management committee	
Name of signatory	Nikola Bishop
Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)	Chair