

Promoting Health and Hygiene

Animals in the Setting

Policy statement

Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. 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.

EYFS key themes and commitments

A Unique Child	Positive Relationships	Enabling Environments	Learning and Development
1.4 Health and well-being	2.3 Supporting learning	3.3 The learning environment	4.1 Play and exploration 4.4 Knowledge and understanding of the world

This Policy was adopted at a meeting of Wellow Under Fives Preschool

Held On	6 th December 2011
Date to be reviewed	December 2012
Signed on behalf of the management committee	
Name of signatory	Rob Blakemore
Role of signatory	Chairperson

Procedures

Animals in the setting as pets: Wellow Under Fives does not keep animals as pets in the setting. If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children they are the responsibility of the owner.

- The owner carries out a written risk assessment, detailing how the animal or creature is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues will be addressed.
- The Manager must approve the risk assessment and determine if the suggested safety and hygiene measures are acceptable. The Manager may make any alteration that he/she deems necessary to said risk assessment prior to the animal or creature coming onto the premises.

Visits to farms

- Before a visit to a farm a written 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
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