

## General Welfare Requirement: Safeguarding and Promoting Children’s Welfare

The provider must promote the good health of the children, take necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection, and take appropriate action when they are ill.

## Promoting health and hygiene

### 1.14 Animals in the setting

#### Policy statement

Children learn about the natural world, it’s animals, as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. This may include contact with animals, either in the setting or on 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

#### Procedures

##### *Domestic pets in the setting*

- If animals are brought in by visitors to show the children they are the responsibility of the owner.
- We carry out a risk assessment with a knowledgeable person accounting for any hygiene or safety risks posed by the animal. This risk assessment is a verbal communication between the staff member and the owner of the animal.
- Children are taught correct handling and care of the animal and are supervised.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding.
- Any child with allergies to the animals are kept at a safe distance. The parents are also notified and it us up to their discretion if the child attends that day.

- All reasonable measures are taken to ensure that the children do not behave in a manner that may scare or alarm the animal.

### **Legal framework**

- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 2006

### **Further guidance**

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

This policy was adopted at a meeting of	_____	name of setting
Held on	_____	(date)
Date to be reviewed	_____	(date)
Signed on behalf of the management	_____	
Name of signatory	_____	
Role of signatory (e.g. chair/owner)	_____	