

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

Outdoor and indoor spaces, furniture, equipment and toys, must be safe and suitable for their purpose.



8.12 Outdoor Learning

Policy statement

We value outdoor play as an intrinsic part of the curriculum. By ensuring outdoor play is an integral part of the routine we consciously seek to transmit a positive attitude to the outdoors and enrich the child's understanding of the world around him/her.

Active learning experiences outdoors are essential for young children. They give children opportunities to practice their developing skills, make them feel good and to explore their world. It is also important for children's physical, mental and emotional development. We believe that children should begin to take risks and face challenges outdoors. The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) fully supports playing outdoors.

Aim

- To enable children of all ages to use the outdoor area as a context for learning throughout the year and on a daily basis.
- We aim to provide a safe, stimulating outdoor environment where space is used effectively to enable children to explore a broad and balanced curriculum using a range of interesting resources suitable to their individual needs.

Procedures

- The outdoor area will be resourced and available for the children to access on a daily basis.
- The outdoor environment will be reassuring and comforting to all children while providing interests.
- Children will be able to choose to use the outdoor area freely during free play, and focus activities may be planned for outdoors at a fixed time of the day.
- Children will need to have appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather in order to enable them to fully access the activities outside. We provide a warm waterproof coat, gloves and a warm hat.
- We believe that access to the outdoor area is beneficial to the health and well being of young children. As a consequence we do not want to restrict a child's choice to play and learn outdoors. If your child is not well enough to go out, we would ask that they are kept home from the setting.
- Whenever children are using the outdoor area we will ensure it is appropriately staffed using the same ratios of adults to children as apply indoors.

- Staff will make observations to inform future planning when working with children in the outdoor area.

Wraparound care

- The above policy also applies to those who attend any of the wraparound sessions provided by Pippin Pre-School.

Further guidance

Equality and Diversity Policy

Equipment and Resources Policy

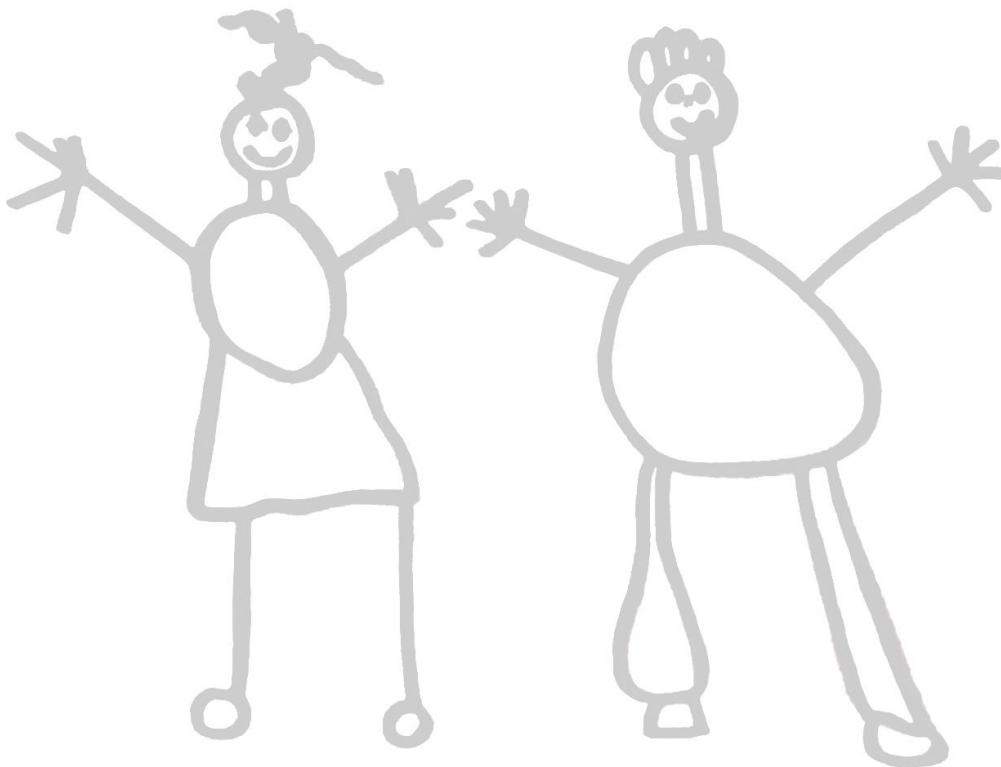
Health and Safety Policy (including Risk Assessments)

Safeguarding Children Policy

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Policy

Sun Protection Policy

Pippin



Pre-School

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