

Equipment and Resources Policy

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)

We Yaxley & Mellis Pre-School believe that high quality care and education is promoted by providing children with safe, clean, attractive, age and stage appropriate resources, toys and equipment.

Furniture, equipment and toys are provided which are appropriate for their purpose and help to create an accessible and stimulating environment. They are of suitable design and condition, well maintained and conform to safety standards.

EYFS key themes and commitments

The Themes and Principles describe the features of our practice on which the Early Years Foundation Stage is based. They emphasise that the child is of first importance and that all relationships, experiences and the environment together influence how the child will develop, plan and learn.

http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2011/10/EYFS_Principles1.pdf.

A Unique Child – 1.1 Child development, 1.2 Inclusive practice, 1.3 Keeping safe, 1.4 Health and well-being

Positive Relationships – 2.1 Respecting each other, 2.2 Parents as parents, 2.3 Supporting learning, 2.4 Key person

Enabling Environments – 3.1 Observation, assessment and planning, 3.2 Supporting every child, 3.3 The learning environment, 3.4 The wider context

Learning and Development - 4.1 Play and exploration. 4.2 Active learning, 4.3 Creativity and critical thinking, 4.4 Personal, social and emotional development

Resources

We aim to provide children with resources and equipment which help to consolidate and extend their knowledge, skills, interests and aptitudes.

- We provide a sufficient quantity of equipment and resources for the number of children.
- We provide resources which promote all areas of children's learning and development, which may be child or adult led.
- We select books, equipment and resources which promote positive images of people of all races, cultures and abilities, are non-discriminatory and avoid racial and gender stereotyping.
- We provide play equipment and resources which promote continuity and progression, provide sufficient challenge and meet the needs and interests of all children.
- We provide man made, natural and recycled materials which are clean, in good condition and safe for the children to use.
- We display a selection of resources and equipment during the session where children can independently choose and select them.

- We keep an inventory of photographs of resources and equipment. This is up dated as and when equipment is acquired or disposed of.
- We use the inventory to:
 - review the balance of resources and equipment so that they can support a range of activities across all areas of play, learning and development and
 - record the dates and results of checking the resources and equipment
- We provide adequate insurance cover for the pre-school's resources and equipment.
- We plan the provision of activities and appropriate resources so that a balance of familiar equipment, resources and exciting challenges are offered.

Safety

- We provide play equipment and resources which are safe and, where applicable, conform to the BSEN safety standards or Toys (Safety) Regulation (1995).
- We check all resources and equipment at the beginning and end of each session
- A daily Risk Assessment is carried out, copies of which will be found in the Opening and Closing file.
- We repair and clean, or replace any unsafe, worn out, dirty or damaged equipment
- We carry out a risk assessment on donated toys, only suitable safe toys will be added to our resources
- Children are supervised at all times on the outdoor play equipment.
- We provide furniture which is suitable for children and furniture which is suitable for adults;
- We have sufficient numbers of child sized chairs and tables to allow flexible arrangements for groups of children to play and eat together.

Working in Partnership with Mellis Primary School we aim to reduce costs on both sides, by sharing resources.

This policy links to the following legislation:

- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage under the Childcare Act 2006
- Children Act (CA) 1989 and 2004
- Conventions of the Rights of the Child, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) 1989
- Data Protection DPA 1998
- Every Child Matters – Change for Children (ECM) 2004
- Freedom of Information Act (FoIA) 2000
- The Human Rights Act (HRA) 2000
- Equalities Act 2010