

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

Children must be kept safe while on outings.

8.3 Supervision of children on outings and visits

Policy statement

Children benefit from being taken outside of the premises on visits or trips to local parks, or other suitable venues, for activities which enhance their learning experiences. We ensure that there are procedures to keep children safe on outings; all staff and volunteers are aware of and follow the procedures as laid out below.

Procedures

- We ask parents to sign a general consent on registration for their children to be taken out on local short outings as a part of the daily activities of the setting. This general consent details the venues used for daily activities.
- We carry out a risk assessment for each local venue used for daily activities, which is reviewed regularly.
- We always ask parents to sign specific consent forms before major outings; and a risk assessment is carried out before the outing takes place.
- All outing risk assessments are made available for parents to see.
- Our adult to child ratio is set depending on children's age, sensibility and the type of venue/activity, as well as how it is to be reached.
- A minimum of two staff accompany children on outings. Unless the whole setting is on an outing, a minimum of two staff also remain behind with the rest of the children.
- Children aged 2 years old will be in ratio of 1:3 on outings, and children 3 & 4 years old will be in ratio of 1:5 on outings
- Staff frequently count their designated children and ensure hands are held when on the street and crossing the road.
- Named children are assigned to individual staff member to ensure that each child is well supervised, that no child goes astray and that there is no unauthorised access to children.
- Parents who accompany us on outings are responsible for their own child only. Where parents have undergone vetting with us as volunteers, they may be included in the adults to child ratio and have children allocated to them.
- We provide children with 'high viz' vests to wear
- Outings are recorded in an outings folder kept in the setting, stating:
 - The date and time of the outing.
 - The venue and mode of transport used.
 - The names of the staff members assigned to each of the children.
 - The time of return.

- We take a mobile phone on outings, as well as supplies of tissues, wipes, medicines required for individual children, a mini first aid kit, and water. The amount of equipment will vary and be consistent with the venue and the number of children, as well as how long they will be out for. We ensure the children are dressed appropriately for the type of outing and weather conditions.
- We take a list of children with us with contact numbers of parents/carers, as well as an accident book and a copy of our Missing Child Policy.
- If necessary, depending on the nature of the outing we provide children with badges to wear that contain the name and setting telephone number – but not the name of the child.

This policy was adopted by _____ *(name of provider)*

On _____ *(date)*

Date to be reviewed _____ *(date)*

Signed on behalf of the provider _____

Name of signatory _____

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) _____

Other useful Pre-school Learning Alliance publications

- Daily Register and Outings Record (2012)
- Managing Risk (2009)