

EQUIPMENT AND RESOURCES POLICY

Statement of Intent

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

Aim

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

Methods

In order to achieve this aim:

- We provide play equipment and resources which are safe and - where applicable - conform to the BSEN safety standards or Toys (Safety) Regulation (1995).
- 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 made, natural and recycled materials which are clean, in good condition and safe for the children to use.
- We provide furniture which is suitable for children and furniture which is suitable for adults.
- We store and display resources and equipment where children can independently choose and select them.
- We choose toys and equipment which provide opportunities for children, with adult help, to develop new skills and concepts in the course of their play and exploration.
- We choose toys which are appropriate for the ages and stages of the children.
- We choose toys which offer challenges for developing physical, social, personal and intellectual skills.
- We check all resources and equipment regularly as they are set out at the beginning of each session and put away at the end of each session. We repair and clean, or replace any unsafe worn out, dirty or damaged equipment.
- We keep an inventory of resources and equipment.
- We use resources which include a range of raw materials that can be used in a variety of ways and encourages an open-ended approach to creativity and problem solving.
- We provide adequate insurance cover for the playgroup's resources and equipment.
- We use the local library to introduce new books.
- We plan the provision of activities and appropriate resources so that a balance of familiar equipment and resources and new exciting challenges is offered.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of the Playgroup held on 3rd April 2006

Reviewed 12th November 2009

Signed on behalf of the Playgroup Committee