

Kiddy Academy Animal Policy

Pets

- If a child brings a pet from home to visit the nursery as a planned activity, parents/guardians of all children who will be in contact or in the same area as the pet must be informed. Written permission must be obtained from parents/guardians to ensure no child has an allergy. A full documented risk assessment needs to be completed prior to the visit and risks analysed before this type of activity is authorised. You should ensure the pet has had all relevant vaccinations and is child friendly
- Pets should not be allowed near food, dishes, worktops or food preparation areas. Children should wash their hands with soap and water after handling animals, and should be encouraged to not place their hands in their mouths during the activity. The staff will explain the importance of this to the children to enable them to make healthy choices moving forwards
- When arranging an outing to a farm, staff must all be aware of the farm outing checklist (see below)

Checklist for visits to farms

- Check that the farm is well managed, that the grounds and public areas are as clean as possible, and that suitable First Aid arrangements are made. Animals should be prohibited from any outdoor picnic areas
- Check that the farm has suitable washing facilities, appropriately signposted, with running water, soap and disposable towels or hot air hand dryers. Any portable water taps should be appropriately designed in a suitable area
- Ensure that there is an adequate number of adults to supervise the children, taking into account the age and stage of development of the children
- Explain to the children that they cannot be allowed to eat or drink anything, including crisps and sweets, or place their hands in their mouths, while touring the farm because of the risk of infection, and the children should be given the reasons for this
- Ensure suitable precautions are in place where appropriate e.g. in restricted areas such as near slurry pits or where animals are isolated.

During the visits to nursery or on outings

- If children are in contact with, or feeding animals, warn them not to place their faces against the animals or put their hands in their own mouths afterwards, and explain why

- After contact with animals and particularly before eating and drinking, ensure all children wash and dry their hands thoroughly. If young children are in the group, hand washing will need to be supervised. Always explain why the children need to do this
- Meals, breaks or snacks should be taken well away from the areas where animals are kept and children should be warned not to eat anything which has fallen on the ground. Any crops produced on the farm should be thoroughly washed in portable water before consumption
- Ensure children do not consume unpasteurised produce e.g. milk or cheese, or taste animal foodstuffs, such as silage and concentrates
- Manure or slurry presents a particular risk of infection and children should be warned against touching it. If they do touch it, ensure that they thoroughly wash and dry their hands immediately
- Ensure all children wash their hands thoroughly before departure
- Ensure footwear and clothing is as free as possible from faecal materials



Childcare at its Best

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