

## Felixstowe Nursery School

### **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).**

### **Animals in the setting**

#### **Statement**

Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the Learning and Development Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This may include contact with animals, or other living creatures, either in the setting or on visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

#### **Procedures**

##### Animals in the setting as pets

- We take into account the views of parents and children when selecting a pet to come into the setting.
- We carry out a risk assessment accounting for any hygiene or safety risks pose by the animal or creature.
- Children are taught the correct handling techniques and care of the animal or creature and are supervised.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil.
- Staff wear gloves when disposing of animal soil.
- If animals are brought into nursery by visitors to show the children, they are the responsibility of their owner.
- The owner carries a risk assessment, detailing how the animal or creature is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues are to be addressed.

##### Visits to farms

- Prior to a farm visit, a risk assessment is carried out, this may take account of safety factors listed in the farm's own risk assessment, which should be viewed.
- The outings procedure is followed.
- Children wash their hands after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit farms are cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors.
- We contact the venue in advance of the visit to ensure that there has been no recent outbreak of E.coli or other infections. If there has been an outbreak, we will review the visit and may decide to postpone it.
- We advise staff and volunteers who are, or may be, pregnant to avoid contact with ewes and to consult their GP before the visit.

## Legal Framework

- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)

**This policy was adopted at a meeting of Felixstowe Nursery School.**

**Held on .....**

**Date to be reviewed.....**

**Signed by Chairperson.....**

**Signed by Manager.....**