

Risk Assessment Policy

Policy statement

Natural Nurture Nursery believes that the health and safety of children is of paramount importance. We make our nursery a healthy and safe place for children, parents, staff and volunteers, by assessing and minimising hazards and risks.

For risk assessments, the nursery follows the Pre-School Learning Alliance recommended five steps:

1. Identification of risk: where is it and what is it?
2. Who is at risk: staff, children, parents, farm workers, cleaners etc?
3. Assessment as to the level of risk as high, medium, low. This is both the risk of the likelihood of it happening, as well as the possible impact if it did.
4. Control measures to reduce/eliminate risk: what will you need to do, or ensure others will do, in order to reduce that risk?
5. Monitoring and review: how do you know if what you have said is working, or is thorough enough? If it is not working, it will need to be amended, or a better solution put forward.

Procedures

- Our risk assessment process covers adults and children and includes:
 - Checking for and noting hazards and risks indoors and outside, and relating to activities
 - Assessing the level of risk and who might be affected
 - Deciding which areas need attention
 - Developing an action plan that specifies the action required, the time-scales for action, the person responsible for the action and any funding required.
- Risk assessments are written and reviewed regularly.
- Risk assessments are performed in the outdoor areas on a daily basis before the children use them.
- Children will not use any area identified as high-risk until it is made safe.
- Health and Safety responsibilities are detailed in the Health and Safety Policy.
- See also Setting Safety Plan for specific risk assessments.

Legal framework

Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992

Further guidance

Five Steps to Risk Assessment (HSE 2006)

This policy was adopted at a meeting of The Natural Nurture Nursery Management Committee held on the 3rd March 2016.