



Food safety and Hygiene

Statement of intent

We regard snack time and lunch time as important parts of our session. Eating represents a social time for children and adults and helps children to learn about healthy eating. We aim to achieve this while also ensuring we follow best practice with regard to food safety and hygiene and promoting positive nutrition standards.

Methods

In order to achieve this, we operate the following procedures:

Milk

- Some children drink milk at pre-school. A list of children who do not drink milk is kept on the fridge door and is checked daily by the member of staff preparing drinks.
- The milk is delivered on Tuesday and Friday by the local delivery service. It is immediately put in the fridge, behind any milk already in there.
- “Use by” dates are checked daily and any milk at it's use-by date is discarded.

Ingredients for cooking activities

- We often do cooking activities at Pre-School.
- Ingredients are bought for specific activities in the quantity needed. Ingredients such as flour and sugar which come in larger quantities and have a long shelf life are stored in airtight containers for future use. Dates and quality are checked prior to each use.
- Children taking part in any cooking activity must wash their hand with hot soapy water before taking part.
- Ingredients are checked against our list of children with allergies and dietary requirements.

General

- Before a child starts to attend the setting, we find out from parents their children's dietary needs and preferences, including any allergies.
- We display current information about individual children's dietary needs so that all staff and volunteers are fully informed about them.
- We implement systems to ensure that children receive only food and drink that is consistent with their dietary needs and preferences as well as their parents' wishes.
- We have a “No Nuts” policy with regard to snacks and lunches brought in from home. This is regularly communicated to parents.

- The fridge temperature is checked daily and recorded in the Setting diary.
- Drinking cups are provided to the children; they are washed daily and only clean cups are used.
- We organise snack and lunch times so that they are social occasions in which children and staff participate.
- We have fresh drinking water constantly available for the children. Children bring in their own water bottles and we inform the children about how to obtain fresh water and that they can ask for water at any time during the session.
- We inform parents about the storage facilities available in the setting.
- In order to protect children with food allergies, we do not allow children to share and swap any of their food with one another.
- All food is checked for allergens.
- All food is checked to ensure it is prepared in a way to prevent choking. If necessary, we will cut up food if we think it is in too large pieces. See Early years food choking hazards table below:



Early-Years-Choking-Hazards-Table_FINAL

- Staff eat their lunch with the children, so all children are withing sight and sound of staff whilst eating at lunchtime. At snack time a member of staff is always allocated to sit with and monitor the children while they are eating. All staff are Paediatric First Aid trained.
- If a child chokes at mealtime and intervention is given, we record details of the incident and ensure that parents/carers are informed.
- All surfaces are cleaned with anti-bacterial cleaning fluid before and after they have been used for food – i.e. after snack time, after lunch time, and after any cooking activity. They are also cleaned again at the end of every day.
- The setting Manager has completed Food Safety training; training in dealing with Allergies is undertaken when required.
- We are registered with Guildford Borough Council Environmental Health Department and currently have a 5* rating.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Child's Play Pre-School name of setting

Held on (date) 19/08/25

Signed on behalf of the Proprietor

Role of signatory

This policy was reviewed on _____ (date)

continue as necessary _____ (date)