

**General 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).



## **28. Animals in the setting**

(Including procedure for visits to farms)

### **Ducklings pre-school policy 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 pre-school or on visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

### **Procedures**

#### *Animals brought into the pre-school*

- If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children they are the responsibility of the owner.
- The owner carries out a risk assessment, detailing how the animal or creature is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues will be addressed.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding.

#### *Visits to farms*

- Before a visit to a farm a risk assessment is carried out - this may take account of safety factors listed in the farm's own risk assessment which is always viewed.
- 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 follow our outings procedures.
- Children wash and dry their hands thoroughly after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit farms is cleaned of mud and debris as soon as possible on departure and should not be worn indoors.
- We advise staff, volunteers and parents 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 (2006)

## Further guidance

- Health and safety law (easy read leaflet) (HSE 2009)

This animals in the setting policy was adopted by	NGCA Ducklings pre-school
On	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2023
Date to be reviewed	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Signed on behalf of the management committee	
Name of signatory	Tristan Woolfenden
Role of signatory	Chairperson