

Home-grown in Malvern **Outdoor Play Policy**

We believe that children should be given the opportunity to play outside every day. This may be in the garden on the grass or hard surface area, or it might be in the park, nature reserve, common or other place.

Whether we are at the house or on a visit, we will endeavour to ensure that the children in our care are kept safe. We will do this in the following ways:

If we are at home or if we are on outings we ensure that all children are dressed appropriately according to the weather, for example making sure that children are wearing coats when it is cold, and sun cream must be applied when it is hot.

At Home

Before allowing the children out to play, the gates at the top of the drive should be closed. The wooden fence barriers should be put in place and checked to make sure that they are secure.

The barrier at the bottom of the steps must be in place.

The outdoor play space should be checked to ensure there are no buckets of water or tarpaulins with water pools that may create drowning hazards. We will also check that no animal has soiled the play area and remove and clean the area if they have.

There will always be at least one adult outside when the children go out. When there are two or more adults, at least one will be overseeing the play space to ensure children are kept safe.

We have shower proof clothing that the children can wear to help them to feel comfortable and dry.

On Outings

If we are going somewhere new, an adult will visit first to carry out a risk assessment.

We will always maintain our ratios at 1:3 or less and adults will be given designated children to supervise.

We will take enough pushchairs and buggies to carry non-walkers and reins for younger toddlers as required.

We will take babies out of pushchairs wherever possible, so that they can properly experience the outdoor environment through physical contact with it.

If we are using cars to transport the children, we will ensure that they are roadworthy, properly equipped with car seats and insured. We will carry first aid supplies in case any minor injuries occur whilst we are out.

At least one adult will carry a mobile phone with contact numbers of parents.

Signed:

Date Reviewed: