



SETTING ENVIRONMENT POLICY

In accordance with Standard 7 NMS (2016): Opportunities for play and learning – Children have a range of experiences – including freely chosen, unstructured and self-directed play- that contribute to their emotional, physical, social, intellectual, language and creative development.

AND

Standard 22 NMS (2016) Environment - Children are cared for in an environment that is safe, secure and suitable for their purpose.

Happitots and Tinytots encourage all children to explore, appreciate and value the rich environment in which they live and play, both indoors and outdoors. We are a free-flow setting.

Children will be given the opportunity to explore a wide range of textures and objects including natural materials. They will be encouraged to use their senses to explore and will be encouraged to build their natural curiosity.

Children will be encouraged to explore and observe the natural world as opportunities arise, as well as in planned activities, both inside and outdoors. Themes and topics will be chosen to link to the natural world, our environment, and local surroundings.

Use will be made of the outside play area in all seasons on a daily basis. Clothing appropriate to the weather will be used when outside. Children may not be encouraged to go outside if weather conditions are severe.

The indoor and outdoor play environment will be prepared to help children feel secure and confident, and be a place where they can exert control and choice in their play. This will include providing child sized furniture and equipment as well as aesthetically pleasing play areas. Children will have a choice of activities and easy access to equipment.

Children will be encouraged to look after equipment and to tidy up after their play.

Children will also be provided with opportunities for quiet relaxation and reflection.

Children's ideas and interests will be encouraged, acted upon and included in planning.

Children will have their work and belongings valued and will be encouraged to value their own and other peoples' belongings.

Children will be encouraged to use activities and equipment creatively.

Please refer also to The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010 (Regulations 16 and 37) and Wales Pre-School Providers Association Policies and Procedures.

Signed: Wendi Terry (Responsible Individual)

Date: November 2023

Review date: November 2024