**Curriculum Safety and Outdoor Play Equipment**

**Physical Activities and Organised Games**

Physical activities provide children of all ages with an invaluable opportunity to test their own skills and to set themselves challenges. The Nursery Staff’s role with regard to health and safety in Physical Development is twofold. Firstly they must set an example to children so that they develop a sense of responsibility of their own safety and well being of others. Secondly, they must establish safe practices and procedures, which will prevent any foreseeable risk of injury or harm. The elimination of risk is not a practicable possibility.

Under no circumstances should children be allowed to attempt activities which are inherently dangerous or beyond their capabilities.

**Health & Fitness for Physical Activities**

Information regarding a child’s fitness for any physical activity should be recorded when the child joins the nursery. The objective is to record any medical condition that may affect the child’s ability to participate in physical activities and any support that may be needed either by the child or by way of staff training to allow them to be included wherever possible.

**Notes**

Participation in physical activities should be strictly according to medical advice. This form should be used in conjunction with any relevant medical information, which is contained in a child’s medical record. For a child with any chronic medical needs we will complete a Healthcare Plan outlining any special measures required by that child and what to do in the event of an emergency.

**Nursery Rooms**

Nursery Staff are directly responsible for ensuring the H&S in the Nursery Rooms. The person responsible for taking the Attendance Register in the morning is also responsible for carrying out the checks outlined on the Health and Safety Daily Checklist.

**17.4.2 Adult/child ratios**

The normal pupil/adult ratio for normal classroom activities should be 1:8 for children aged 3 to 5 and for 2 year olds 1:4.

Qualified Teachers working with a Level 3 Nursery worker may have a ratio of 1:13 for children aged 3-5 years.

* 1. **Use of tools**

Where activities include the use of tools of any sort then the children should be closely supervised. Generally though where tools need to be used then the age and skills of the child should be taken into account. Wherever possible children should be encouraged to use the correct tools in a safe manner but if their strength or co-ordination is not sufficient then a staff member should complete the task for them.

Strict rules and boundaries must be enforced at all times whenever children are undertaking any activity involving the use of tools.

When cookery activities are undertaken then the above points for using tools should be adhered to. In addition food hygiene and cleanliness standards must be emphasised e.g. hands must be washed both before and after cookery sessions.

Further information on the use of tools can be found in the Forest School Handbook.

* 1. **Outdoor Areas**

**17.6.1**

Children must be supervised at all times when outdoors. Any dangerous play must be stopped immediately and children encouraged to play in a friendly and co-operative manner.

**17.6.2**

The play area boundaries are clearly described and taught to the children. Any areas with an element of risk, such as the Court Lawn, due to the moat, will only be visited when staff feel that the children in any particular group are able to behave in such a way that they are able to follow rules in order to keep themselves safe. Staffing levels and deployment are also altered accordingly depending on the size, age and developmental level of the children within the group.

**17.6.4**

Equipment used outdoors will be visually inspected on a regular basis by school/Nursery staff. The sand in the indoor sandpit is changed termly. Nursery staff also wash the outdoor equipment to maintain sound levels of hygiene as necessary.