Noah's Ark Preschool: Policies & Procedures



All Weather Policy

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Sun Care Policy:

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All Weather Policy

Adverse weather conditions:

At Noah's Ark Preschool we have an adverse weather policy in place to ensure our nursery is prepared for all adverse weather such as floods, snow and heat waves.

If any of these incidents impact on the ability for the nursery to operate, we will contact parents via email and/or phone as set out in our emergency closure policy (2.15).

Flood

There is always a danger of flooding from adverse weather conditions or through the water/central heating systems. We cannot anticipate adverse weather; however we can ensure that we take care of all our water and heating systems through regular maintenance and checks to reduce the option of flooding in this way. Our central heating systems are checked and serviced annually by a registered gas engineer and they conform to all appropriate guidelines and legislation.

If flooding occurs during the nursery day, the nursery Manager will decide based on the severity and location of this flooding, and it may be deemed necessary to follow the fire evacuation procedure. In this instance children will be kept safe and parents will be notified in the same way as the fire procedure.

Should the nursery be assessed as unsafe through flooding, fire or any other incident we will follow our operational plan.

Snow

If high snow fall is threatened during a nursery day then the nursery Manager will take the decision as to whether to close the nursery. This decision will consider the safety of the children, their parents and the staff team. No refunds will be issued for closure days due to snow.

In the event of a planned closure during the nursery day we will contact all parents to arrange for collection of their child. We will aim to give 2 hours notification, where possible, that children need to be collected. Children cannot be accommodated overnight at the nursery, so parents must make every effort to collect their child, despite any challenging conditions.

In the event of staff shortages due to adverse weather conditions, we will consider the safety, health and welfare of the children. If we feel this is compromised, such as not net being able to maintain the legal ratio for suitable adults to children, then the Preschool manager will take the decision to close the nursery.

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Sun Care Policy:

Noah's Ark Preschool is committed to ensuring that all children are fully protected from the dangers of too much sun. Severe sunburn in childhood can lead to the development of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in later life.

We use the following procedures to keep children safe and healthy in the sun:

- Children must have a clearly named sun hat which will always be worn whilst
 outside in sunny weather. This hat will preferably be of legionaries design (i.e. with
 an extended back and side to shield children's neck and ears from sun) to provide
 additional protection
- Children must have had sun cream applied to their exposed areas of skin before their first session at preschool.
- Parents must supply each child's own high factor sun cream, that is named for their child's session. This enables staff to reapply sun cream throughout the session as necessary, that is suited to each child's needs.
- Children need light-weight cotton clothing suitable for the sun, with long sleeves and long legs, if prone to sunburn
- Children's safety outside in the sun is the nursery's prime objective so staff will work closely with parents to ensure all appropriate cream and clothing is provided
- Children will always have sun cream applied before going outside in the sun and at frequent intervals during the day
- Children are offered cooled water more frequently throughout sunny or warm days
- Children are made aware of the need for sun hats, sun cream and the need to drink more fluids during their time in the sun
- Staff will make day-to-day decisions about the length of time spent outside dependant on the strength of the sun
- Shade will be provided to ensure children are able to cool down or escape the sun should they wish or need to