



## Outdoor policy

At Seahorses Flying Start we ensure the children have access to outdoor play, ensuring that the children are actively involved in physical activities, this benefits the children to become healthier, happier and more physically competent when playing outdoors. Outdoor play considers the provision of opportunities for children to connect to different skills, ideas, knowledge and materials which promotes social learning, creativity and problem solving skills.

Our aim is to promote enthusiasm, enjoyment and confidence while developing each child's physical skills and abilities

Seahorses ensure that:

- A headcount of all children will be completed before leaving the childcare facility. If the activity is not taking place in the Flying Start play area the mobile phone will be taken on the journey.
- Staff are aware of all children present, and are aware of their individual needs.
- Staff are to support the children if they have ALN or restricted mobility. This could be just holding their hand throughout the activity/walk or using a walking aid or pram.
- A visual health and safety check of the garden area and equipment is carried out before taking the children out and any defects are removed.
- We have suitable flooring, (wet pour), to protect the children whilst they play outside in our play area.
- The children are safe in a secure within their play area. If this is not evident then the children will not be able to access this play area.
- The children are able to access the school grounds to go on welly walks/ experience "Coed Clase", or the nursery garden with the supervision of the childcare team.
- The children are also able to access the playroom within the school in agreement with their manager.
- The children have access to the local facilities. Stay and play sessions are held within the local park, the children are accompanied by their parent / carer.
- The opportunity to play outside, throughout the year, in all different kinds of weather is as important as playing inside. Nearly everything that is provided inside can be provided outside and some of the best learning can only happen outside. For many children, the learning that happens outdoors is the most important.



- Children can play outside in all elements including rain and snow. This gives them the opportunity to play in these conditions to experiment and learn from all aspects of the outdoor elements. The staff will assess the conditions before going outside; if it is too extreme or staff feel it is too risky then other play opportunities will be provided.
- The children have suitable clothing for all outdoor elements. If the children need additional clothing or have forgotten their own we have a supply of wet weather all in ones, legionnaires hats for hot weather and knitted hats for the cold.
- Sun cream is available in hot sunny weather. Parents are asked to bring their own in a clearly labelled bottle, however if they have forgotten their own we gain verbal permission from the parent for staff to use the settings cream on their children.
- The children wash their hands after being outside; this is already embedded within the children's daily routine.

Managers Signature: *Julie Ace*

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