

01 Health and safety procedures

01.17 Animals (where they stay with us for short period e.g Chick hatching experience)

- Staff will be aware of any allergies or issues individual children may have with any animals/creatures.
- A risk assessment is conducted and considers any hygiene and safety risks posed by the animal or creature.
- Suitable housing for the animal is provided and is regularly cleaned and maintained.
- The correct food is offered at the right times and staff are knowledgeable of the pet's welfare and dietary needs.
- Arrangements are made for weekend and holiday care for the animal/creature.
- Children are taught correct handling of the pet and are always supervised.
- Children wash their hands after handling the pet and do not have contact with animal faeces, or soiled bedding.
- Members of staff wear single use vinyl/latex free gloves if cleaning/handling soiled bedding.

Animals bought in by visitors

- The owner of the animal/creature maintains responsibility for it in the setting.

The pre-school carries out a risk assessment detailing how the animal/creature is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues will be addressed.

Further guidance

Good Practice in Early Years Infection Control (Pre-school Learning Alliance 2009)