

CATERPILLARS PRE-SCHOOL (SUSSEX) LIMITED

**17. ANIMALS IN THE SETTING**

Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. This may include contact with animals, or other living creatures, either in the setting or in visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

**Procedures**

**Animals in the setting as pets**

* If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children they are the responsibility of the owner.
* The owner carries out a risk assessment, detailing how the animal or creature is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues will be addressed.

**Visits to farms**

* Before a visit to a farm a risk assessment is carried out – this may take account of safety factors listed in the farm’s own risk assessment which should be viewed.
* The outings procedures is followed.
* Children wash their hands after contact with animals.
* Outdoor footwear worn to visit farms are cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors.

Legal framework

* The Management of Health and Safety at Work 1999

This policy was adopted by the Manager of Caterpillars Pre-school on 3rd April, 2023

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Name of signatory: Catherine Clark Role of signatory: Manager