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**Risk Assessment Policy & Procedure**

The Ark Nursery provides an environment in which children can thrive. In order to do this the risk benefits of any activity are weighed against any possible hazards. The risks are assessed and removed or minimised to an acceptable level.

The Ark Nursery will ensure that all areas, equipment, activities, resources and outings are safe for children. We encourage ways of working that ensure the safety of children, employees and all other persons who come into the premises

The health and safety officer responsible for the general implementation of this policy is: The nursery Manager All staff members have a responsibility to bring to the attention of the above named person any concerns with regards to health and safety. The above named person is responsible for recording any concerns raised and acting upon them.

We recognise that children need some level of risk in their activities and outings in order to ensure that they continue to develop, but these risks are assessed to ensure that they are appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children.

All staff are responsible for the health and safety of themselves,   
children and any other persons on the premises and may access relevant training.   
All new staff members will be inducted into the setting’s health and safety policies and procedures including those for risk assessment within the first week of their employment.

Risk assessments will be conducted to assess the environment, identify hazards and minimise risks to ensure that our environment is safe and suitable for all children, employees and all other persons who came onto the premises.  
Some written risk assessments relating to specific issues will be kept on site and will be accessible at all times to inform staff practice and to demonstrate how we are managing risks.

Daily checks will be carried out on the indoor and outdoor environment before children access these areas.  
COSHH legislation will be followed.  
This policy is implemented in conjunction with the setting’s Health & Safety policy. Any breaches of this policy are subject to the setting’s disciplinary procedure.

**Risk Assessment Procedure**

When conducting risk assessment staff will:

* Assess the risk benefit of any activity
* Walk around the setting and identify potential hazards
* Evaluate the level of risk, considering who might be harmed   
  and how
* Where it is helpful the risk assessment will be written in relation to specific issues to record any existing precautions and any action necessary to further minimise risk
* Written risk assessments will record the date of the assessment and the review date.

This policy is reviewed annually