

Favours Day Nursery Ltd Policy and Procedure

Managing Extreme Weather

At Favours Day Nursery we have an extreme weather policy in place to ensure our nursery is prepared for all weather conditions that might affect the running of the nursery such as floods, snow and heat waves.

If any of these impact on the ability of the nursery to open or operate, we will contact parents via email.

We will not take children outdoors where we judge that weather conditions make it unsafe to do so.

Flood

In the case of a flood, we will follow our Critical incident policy to enable all children and staff to be safe and plan for continuity of care.

Snow or other severe weather

If high snowfall, or another severe weather condition such as dense fog, is threatened during a nursery day then the manager and director will decide whether to close the nursery. This decision will take into account the safety of the children, their parents and the staff team. In the event of a planned closure during the nursery day, we will contact all parents to arrange for collection of their child.

In the event of staff shortages due to snow or other severe weather, we will contact all available off duty staff and/or agency staff and group the children differently until they are able to arrive. If we are unable to maintain statutory ratio requirements after all options have been explored, we will contact Ofsted to inform them of this issue, recording all details in our incident file. If we feel the safety, health or welfare of the children is compromised then we will take the decision to close the nursery.

Heat wave

We are committed to ensuring that all children are fully protected from the dangers of too much sun and UV rays as severe sunburn in childhood can lead to the development of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in later life.

We are accredited by Sun Safe Nurseries and use this website for the daily UV levels. Staff and children understand the different procedures based on the UV level for that day and signs are displayed.

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

- Children must have a clearly labelled sun hat which will be worn at all times whilst outside in sunny weather. This hat will preferably be of legionnaires or bucket design to protect the whole head
- The nursery will provide high factor sun cream with prior written consent for staff to apply. If parents would like to provide their own this must be clearly labelled with the child's name. Staff must be aware of the expiry date and discard sunscreen after this date. Sun cream containing nut-based ingredients will not be allowed in the setting
- Parents are requested to supply light-weight cotton clothing for their children suitable for the sun, with long sleeves and long legs where appropriate
- Children's safety and welfare in hot weather is the nursery's prime objective so staff will work closely with parents to ensure all appropriate cream and clothing is provided
- Shaded areas are provided to ensure children are able to go out in hot weather, cool down or escape the sun should they wish to or need to
- Children will always have sun cream applied before going outside and at frequent intervals during the day
- Children are made aware of the need for sun hats, sun cream and the need to drink more water during their time in the sun

Vitamin D

Sunlight is important for the body to receive vitamin D. We need vitamin D to help the body absorb calcium and phosphate from our diet. These minerals are important for healthy bones, teeth and muscles. Our bodies create vitamin D from direct sunlight on our skin when we are outdoors. Most people can make enough vitamin D from being out in the sun daily for short periods with their hands or other body parts uncovered.

We also promote the NHS recommendation to parents that all children aged under 5 years should be given vitamin D supplements even if they do get out in the sun.

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A. Cooke

Written with guidance from the National Day Nurseries Association & NHS