



Supervision of Children Policy

The Nursery Manager is responsible for all staff, students, volunteers, apprentices and relief staff receiving information on health and safety in the nursery in order to supervise the children in their care suitably.

Supervision

- Making sure that every child is always within sight/and or sound of a suitably vetted member of staff. Monitoring staff deployment across the setting regularly to ensure children's individual needs are met.
- Whether children are in or out of the building, they must always be adequately supervised.
- Be aware that children can drown in only a few centimetres of water; children must always be fully supervised when engaging in water play activities.
- Special care should be taken when children are using large apparatus, for example, the climbing frame and when children are walking up and down stairs/steps.
- A member of staff must always supervise large outdoor play equipment
- A member of staff must be aware of the dangers relating to bushes, shrubs, plants and weeds.
- Children must be always supervised when eating. Toddlers and babies should be closely monitored. Babies will never be left alone with a bottle and will always be bottle fed by a member of staff. Where possible this will be the child's key person.
- Babies/children will never be left unattended during nappy changes.
- Children must be carefully supervised when using scissors.
- Children must be carefully supervised when using knives for cooking activities, however safety knives will always be used by the children.

Staff ratios

The ratio requirements set out the minimum numbers of staff that must be present with the children to ensure adequate supervision of children to ensure that the needs of the individual children being cared for are met. There must be at least two members of staff on duty in the setting at any time when children are present.

Children under two years of age

- There must be at least one member of staff for every three children
- At least one member of staff must hold a full and relevant level three qualification and must be suitably experienced in working with children under two years
- At least half of all other staff must hold a full and relevant level two qualification
- At least half the staff must have had training that specifically addresses the care of babies
- Where there is an under two-year room, the member of staff in charge of that room must have suitable experience of working with under twos

Children aged two years

- There must be at least one member of staff for every five children
- At least one member of staff must hold a full and relevant level three qualification
- At least half of all other staff must hold a level two qualification

Children aged three or above

For children aged three and over in registered early years provision where a person with Qualified Teacher Status, Early Years Professional Status, Early Years Teacher Status or another suitable level 6 qualification is working directly with the children:

- There must be at least one member of staff to every 13 children
- At least one other member of staff must hold a full and relevant level three qualification

For children aged three and over at any time in registered early years provision when a person with Qualified Teacher Status, Early Years Professional Status, Early Years Teacher Status or another suitable level six qualification is not working directly with the children:

- There must be at least one member of staff for every eight children
- At least one member of staff must hold a full and relevant level three qualification
- At least half of all other staff must hold a full and relevant level two qualification

This policy was adopted on	8 September 2018
Signed on behalf of the nursery	
Signed by nursery owner	
Date for review	September 2026