10.13 Health and safety

Policy statement

Our provision is a suitable, clean and safe place for children to be cared for, where they can grow and learn. We meet all statutory requirements for health and safety and fulfil the criteria for meeting the Early Years Foundation Stage Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements.

The Woodland Nursery takes health and safety very seriously and is of utmost importance. We aim to make our setting as safe as it can be for children, parents and staff. We work with the children and parents to make sure they are aware of any hazards and risks to enable them both to feel safe. In addition, regular and detailed risk assessments are carried out to reduce the risk of any hazards.

We use health and safety to discuss with the children how to be safe in their environment through planned activities and routines.

No Smoking

We comply with the EYFS safety regulations by making our setting a no smoking (including electronic cigarettes) environment both indoors and outdoors.

All staff and parents are made aware that our setting is a no smoking area. If staff smoke then they will do so away from the premises on their break, they will not smoke 15 minutes prior to coming into the nursery from the beginning of their shift and at lunch.

No Drugs or Alcohol

Carers of any kind (including guardians) must not be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance which may affect their ability to care for the children. If a parent or guardian was to collect their child under the influence, we would contact the emergency contact number and refuse collection. If necessary, we will also contact the police. In line with the Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements 'If practitioners are taking medication which may affect their ability to care for children, those practitioners should seek medical advice. Providers must ensure that those practitioners only work directly with children if medical advice confirms that the medication is unlikely to impair that staff member's ability to look after children properly. Staff medication on the premises must be securely stored, and out of reach of children at all times.

Sun Safety

When the sun is shining, we make sure the children are safe on hot days by:

- Applying sun cream of a high factor (supplied by the parent)

- Making sure all children wear suitable hats
- Encouraging children to drink plenty of water

Outdoor Areas

We make sure that our outdoor areas are securely fenced to keep the children safe when enjoying the outdoor space. When we use the outdoor areas, they will be checked for safety and cleared of rubbish before it is used (in line with our daily risk assessments). All our outdoor activities will be supervised by our practitioners.

Risk Assessment

Our setting follows a strict risk assessment which includes the following steps:

- Identifying Hazards in the setting
- Who could be harmed by this hazard and how
- What actions we are taking to prevent these hazards
- What further action is necessary
- Who will deal with the further action and when

We run these risk assessments regularly, it does vary depending upon the type of risk assessment and the outcome of the previous assessment. This is done to ensure we are offering the safest of environments for everyone.

This policy was adopted by	The Woodland Nursery
Date to be reviewed	October 2027
Signed on behalf of the provider	T Paskins
Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)	Nursery Owner