Going outside is a very important part of a child’s development as they learn about the world, assess risk, enjoy physical activities, develop mathematical, literacy, language and social skills, and have opportunities to be creative.

We follow procedures to make sure these important outings are safe.

* First the outside is checked for safety, e.g. broken bottles, rubbish, plastic bags, gates being closed and secure etc. Permanent outside equipment cleaned with D10 o or Covid Guard before use.
* Equipment is put out if required, damaged equipment removed and recorded later.
* Wash hands then get the first aid bag and keys. Check gates are secure and cleaned with Covid-Guard. Wash hands
* 2 Children wash hands, then risk assess garden area with staff, encourage these children to choose the equipment and asses the weather conditions. Fill in safety sheets.
* Staff put their risk assessment sheets in folders and the child to inform their peers it's safe to go outside if they wish to.
* Children wash hands before going outside.
* Suitable clothing is put on in cloakroom area, children encouraged to help.
* Shutter is opened for free flow. Monitor children by having regular head counts and informing staff who is outside and how many. Remind children it is good to walk as they go outside to prevent accidents.
* Adult to child ratio 1:8 anymore another staff member is required.
* Children are encouraged to share and think of their own and others safety.
* Supervise at all time.
* Engage with children and support their interests and learning experiences
* Minor first aid can be dealt with outside, then written up when inside
* Allow children to assess risks while using your judgement to keep children safe.
* Equipment to be used as intended; when using the slide on bottoms only, bikes off the grass, follow all risk assessments for specific equipment.
* When the activity is over the children tidy up. When entering the nursery change into indoor shoes etc. and wash hands for 20 seconds using soap and hot running water . Staff inside will need to support this.
* When all the children are safely in do a finally check of the outside area, physically checking all large equipment and hiding areas for children, check shed and lock up
* Staff Sanitise hands
* Head count of all nursery children when inside.
* If the correct amount of children are present close shutter and main door and alarm
* Staff wash hands following hand washing guidance
* After children have left, secure all large equipment such as benches, and cooker.
* Wash hands following hand washing guidance

**Risk assessment on equipment before each use**

* Make sure climbing equipment is safe before children allowed on it, which includes cleaning equipment with Covid-Guard. Follow PPE guidance.
* Check equipment in frosty/icy/wet weather for safety
* Make sure stepping logs are safely in place and not slippery
* Check sand pit for foreign bodies and damaged wood
* Check cooker, bench and table for decay and splinters
* Remove damaged or unsafe equipment before and when children are in area

**Cleaning of equipment**

* Use PPE following PPE guidance available in Policies and procedure folder and risk assessment folder.
* After each session used (group activity) equipment will require cleaning with D10 o or Covid Guard. This includes stored equipment and large outside equipment such as the slide, climbing equipment, musical instruments, interactive mounted equipment, and playhouses. Use D10 or Covid Guard to clean any surfaces and disposable clothes using PPE recommended in the PPE procedure
* record when equipment cleaned in equipment cleaning log. All equipment cleaned over the two weeks. Equipment after use is not used again by that same group until after 72hrs. This equipment is not shared with any other group.
* remove any damaged or unsafe equipment
* keep each groups toys separate and do not share equipment between groups.

**Unexplained adults or dogs in the school grounds**

* Gather children calmly and escort into the nursery through the closest entrance.
* Do not approach adult or animal
* Do not use children’s names or discuss child information with adult
* Head count when in the building
* Inform management
* Monitor situation

Amended 25/10/19

Amended 04/08/20 cleaning of equipment

Amended 18/11/20 New outdoor extension complete