**Outdoor Play**

Young children need challenge and risk within a framework of security and safety. The outdoor environment lends itself to offering challenge, helping children learn how to be safe and to be aware of others. Mobile children enjoy outdoor play at any time of the year so parents are asked to provide children with appropriate clothing to allow them to play out regardless of the weather conditions.

We try to ensure that our children have fresh air every day and include the outdoor areas in our planning.

Whilst outside, children should have access to a wide range of activities which reflect all areas of learning, supervised by staff to ensure greatest play value. Planned art activities can be carried out in the garden just as well as indoors, games organised to develop their gross motor skills, e.g. ball games, hopping, skipping, balance skills such as pedalling bikes, “What’s the time Mr. Wolf?”, imaginary play etc.

A variety of activities will be provided in the room to enable children to come indoors as and when they choose encouraging free flow.

Where possible, the equipment will be set out before or during breakfast.

**During warm weather**

The nursery will provide sun protection cream in a spray or pump action dispenser of at least Factor 30, parents will be asked to sign a Sun Cream Chart to give consent. Parents who wish to supply their own factor 30+ cream may do so.

Before going outside, all children should have sun protection cream applied, taking particular care with arms, and especially faces and backs of necks regardless of skin type. All children must be encouraged to wear sun hats.

Babies’ equipment should be put in the shade and moved round as the sun moves. Babies and immobile children should not be left in direct sunlight.

During the day the children will have access to plenty of drinks, especially fresh water.

Viruses that are spread by other human beings and cause colds and the flu are indoors. The indoor circulation of germs and bacteria is much more harmful to a child than playing outside.