



## **Risk Assessment Policy**

### **Purpose of Policy**

Little Dreams Nursery aims to ensure that all experiences, trips and outings, materials and equipment are safe for the children. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that any hazards associated with these are identified and removed or minimised to an acceptable level of risk.

Little Dreams Nursery appreciates that children and young people need some level of risk in their activities, trips, and outings to ensure that children continue to develop, but these risks are assessed to ensure that any risks are appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children and young people involved.

### **Who is Responsible?**

It is the responsibility of the Nursery Manager / Deputy Manager under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to ensure that risks to staff, parents and children are minimised or eliminated whenever possible.

It is the responsibility of the Nursery Manager / Deputy Manager to ensure that risk assessments are completed for all setting experiences.

It is the responsibility of each staff member to follow the risk assessments and ensure new resources / equipment is risk assessed where necessary.

### **How the Policy will be Implemented**

Risk assessments must be carried out on all existing and new experiences that take place in the setting.

It is identified that some experiences with a low level of risk will not be assessed for risk on every occasion; however, should there be any changes these will be reviewed and updated by a senior member of staff / practitioner.

Risk Assessments are carried out to turn identified hazards into risks that are acceptable for the children and young people in the setting. Risk assessments commonly look at the experience that is planned; identify hazards associated with the experience and come up with strategies to reduce the hazard to an acceptable risk.

Hazards are identified as something that will cause harm to one or more people if controls are not put in place to minimise their impact.

Risks are identified as something that may cause harm to one or more persons depending on what controls are put in place.

### **Risk Assessment Procedure**

When performing a risk assessment, the member of staff looks at the following elements:

- Benefits of the experience
- The Hazard
- Severity
- Who is at risk?
- Risk level before
- Action taken (what measures will be put in place to reduce the hazard)
- Risk level after
- Actioned (date & sign)