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The Butterfly Rooms (Incorporating Woodlands) LTD

Tank Hill Road | Purfleet | Essex | RM19 1TA
Registered Charity Number: 1148068 | Ofsted Number: 453859 | Company Number: 7984150 | *Limited by Guarantee*
Telephone Number: 01708 863 737

Hot Weather Policy

Purpose

This policy outlines the procedures implemented at The Butterfly Rooms to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of children, staff, and visitors during periods of hot weather, in line with the EYFS Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements.

Policy Statement

At The Butterfly Rooms, we are committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment at all times. We recognise the risks associated with hot weather, including dehydration, sunburn, and heat-related illness, and take proactive steps to minimise these risks.

Hot weather procedures are embedded across all rooms and daily routines to ensure children remain safe, comfortable, and well supported.

Butterfly Rooms Approach

Within The Butterfly Rooms, caring for children aged 0–5 years, staff will:

* Respond to each child's individual needs, including hydration, rest, and comfort
* Adapt daily routines such as sleep, mealtimes, and activities in response to temperature
* Continue to support learning and development in line with the EYFS framework, while prioritising wellbeing
* Provide close supervision, particularly for babies, younger children, and those unable to communicate their needs

Procedures

1. Monitoring and Risk Assessment

* Weather conditions are monitored daily
* Risk assessments are reviewed and updated in response to rising temperatures
* Adjustments are made to routines, environments, and staffing where required

Hydration

* Fresh drinking water is available at all times

* Children are encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day

* Babies and younger children are offered fluids more frequently in line with individual care routines

* Staff monitor children's fluid intake to reduce the risk of dehydration

Sun Protection

* Parents/carers must provide labelled sun cream (minimum SPF 30–50)

* Sun cream is applied before outdoor play and reapplied throughout the day

* Additional support is provided to younger children and babies

Children are required to wear:

* Sun hats

* Lightweight, breathable clothing

Outdoor Play

Outdoor play remains an important part of the EYFS curriculum but will be adapted during hot weather:

* Sessions may be shorter

* Shaded areas will be used wherever possible

* Outdoor play during peak sun hours (11:00am–3:00pm) will be avoided where necessary

Indoor activities will continue to support learning through play.

Indoor Environment

* Rooms are kept as cool as possible by:

* Closing blinds or curtains

* Maintaining good ventilation

* Using fans safely and out of children's reach

* Calm, low-energy activities are encouraged during periods of high temperature

Sleep and Rest

* Sleeping children are closely monitored

* Room temperatures are checked regularly

* Bedding is adapted as required (e.g. lighter covers)

* Additional checks ensure children remain comfortable and safe

Personal Care and Hygiene

* Increased attention is given to:

* Nappy changing routines

* Hygiene practices

* Children's comfort and cleanliness

* All procedures remain in line with infection control standards

Recognising Heat-Related Illness

Staff remain vigilant for signs of:

* Dehydration

* Heat exhaustion

* Overheating

If concerns arise, staff will:

* Move the child to a cool area

* Offer fluids

* Inform management immediately

* Seek medical advice where necessary

Staffing and Supervision

* Statutory EYFS ratios are maintained at all times

* Enhanced supervision is provided for:

* Babies and non-mobile children

* Sleeping children

* Children requiring additional support

Parent Partnership

Parents/carers are asked to provide:

* Suitable weather-appropriate clothing

* Sun hats

* Sun cream

The setting will communicate clearly with parents regarding hot weather procedures and any necessary changes to routines.

Exceptional Circumstances / Operational Adjustments

In line with our duty of care, The Butterfly Rooms will continuously monitor conditions during periods of hot weather.

Where temperatures or environmental conditions are deemed to pose a risk to the health, safety, or wellbeing of children, staff, or visitors, the setting reserves the right to make temporary adjustments to ensure safe operation.

This may include:

* Adapting routines and activities

* Restricting access to certain areas

* Increasing supervision or staffing levels

* Amending operational hours where necessary to ensure provision can be delivered safely and effectively

* Adjusting opening and closing times at short notice where required to maintain the safety and wellbeing of children and staff

All decisions will be:

* Based on risk assessment and professional judgement
* Clearly communicated to parents/carers in a timely manner
* Shared via iConnect and/or email as soon as possible
* Focused on maintaining children's safety, wellbeing, and continuity of care

Roles and Responsibilities

Staff

* Follow this policy at all times
* Monitor children's wellbeing and respond appropriately
* Adapt routines to meet children's needs

Management

* Ensure compliance with EYFS and Ofsted requirements
* Monitor the effectiveness of procedures
* Update risk assessments as required

Safeguarding Statement

Hot weather procedures form part of the setting's wider safeguarding responsibilities. The Butterfly Rooms is committed to ensuring all children are protected from harm and that their health, safety, and wellbeing remain the highest priority at all times.

Review

This policy will be reviewed:

* Annually
* Following extreme weather events
* In line with updates to EYFS or statutory guidance

This policy was adopted by	The Butterfly Rooms Ltd
On	01st July 2026
Date to be reviewed	01st July 2027
Signed on behalf of the Management committee	A.Thompson
Name of signatory	Miss Aimee Thompson