

# Pet Policy



Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum. This may include contact with animals, or other living creatures, either in the Preschool or in visits. Burton Preschool Playgroup aims to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

All staff will be required to read this policy on their induction and to comply with the contents of the policy.

The preschool manager is responsible for ensuring all staff understand and follow these procedures.

- We carry out a risk assessment with a knowledgeable person accounting for any hygiene or safety risks posed by the animal or creature.
- We provide suitable housing for the animal or creature and ensure this is cleaned out regularly and is kept safely.
- We ensure the correct food is offered at the right times.
- We make arrangements for holiday care for the animal or creature.
- Children are taught correct handling and care of the animal or creature and are supervised.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding.
- Staff wear disposable gloves when cleaning housing or handling soiled bedding.
- If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children they are the responsibility of the owner.
- The owner carries out a risk assessment, detailing how the animal or creature is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues will be addressed.