

### 8.6 Animals in the setting

#### Policy statement

Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the Learning and Development Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This may include contact with animals, or other living creatures, either in the setting or on visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

#### Procedures

##### *Animals in the setting as pets*

- We take account of the views of parents and children when selecting an animal or creature to visit the setting, as well as any allergies or issues that individual children may have any animals or creatures.
- Our lease agreements state that we are not permitted to have pets in the setting.

##### *Visits to farms*

- Before a visit to a farm, we carry out a risk assessment - this may take account of safety factors listed in the farm's own risk assessment, which should be viewed.
- We contact the venue in advance of the visit to ensure that there has been no recent outbreak of E.coli or other infections. If there has been an outbreak, we will review the visit and may decide to postpone it.
- We follow our outings procedure.
- Children wash and dry their hands thoroughly after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit farms is cleaned of mud and debris as soon as possible on departure and should not be worn indoors.
- We advise staff and volunteers who are, or may be, pregnant to avoid contact with ewes and to consult their GP before the visit.
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#### Legal framework

- The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999)

## Further guidance

- Health and Safety Regulation...A Short Guide (HSE 2003)

**This policy was adopted by**

Hempstead Pavilion Playgroup Ltd

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**On**

25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

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**Date to be reviewed**

31<sup>st</sup> July 2019

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**Signed on behalf of the provider**

**Name of signatory**

Joanne Jarrett

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**Role of signatory**

Director

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