



# St. Mary's Playgroup

## Equipment and Resources Policy

### **Statement of intent**

We believe that high-quality early years care and education is promoted by providing children with safe, clean, attractive, developmentally appropriate resources, toys and equipment but indoors and outside.

### **Aim**

We aim to provide children with access to a range of resources and equipment that help to stimulate enjoyment, play and consolidate and extend their knowledge, skills, interests, learning and development both indoors and outdoors.

### **Methods**

In order to achieve this aim we:

- Provide play equipment and resources that are safe and – where applicable – conform to the BS EN safety standards or the Toys (safety) Regulations (1995).
- Ensure that all electrical toys and equipment are subject to PAT (Portable Appliance Testing).
- Provide enough equipment and resources for the number of children.
- Provide resources that promote all areas of children's learning and development, which may be child or adult led.
- Select books, equipment and resources that promote positive images with regards to cultures, ethnicity, gender and abilities, are non-discriminatory and avoid racial and gender stereotyping.
- Provide resources which will where possible show men and women in a variety of roles and jobs and people with different abilities being both active and creative. Examples of everyday life will portray people from a variety of family groups and cultural backgrounds.
- Provide play equipment and resources that promote progression, provide sufficient challenge and meet the needs and interests of all children.
- Provide man-made, natural and recycled materials that are clean, in good condition and safe for the children to use.
- Provide furniture that is suitable for both children and adults.
- Store and display resources and equipment where children can independently choose and select them as appropriate.
- Regularly check all resources and equipment that are available at each session and ensure they are put away at the end of each session.
- Repair, clean, or replace, any unsafe, worn out, dirty or damaged equipment
- Maintain an inventory of resources and equipment, using the inventory to provide adequate insurance cover.
- Plan the provision of activities and appropriate resources so that a balance of familiar equipment and resources and new exciting challenges is offered.

Approved date: November 2023

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