

GREENACRES

Childcare at its best

Children's well-being policy

Greenacres puts the children's well-being as a priority at all times and will ensure there are procedures in place enable this. Greenacres is a safe and happy environment for the children to attend.

Sun awareness and sun safety

Greenacres has a strict policy that children must wear hats and sun creams when using the garden in the height of the sun. Sun cream directions of use should be considered when applying to children.

Parents should sign the terms and conditions form to consent to use our sun lotion factor 50 plus with a 5 star UVA rating, unless provided by the parent/carer and should be specified on the additional medication form.

If a parent chooses not to allow their child to have sun cream applied, it must be made clear that it is against our advice and they must sign a declaration. If it is too hot the children may not be able to play outside.

During hot weather, outdoor play must be assessed by management and authorised for suitability. Very shaded areas may be used for short spells and staff must be vigilant in assessing the danger of the sun exposure outside.

Dehydration is another danger during hot days. It is essential to encourage children to drink plenty of water by having regular drink breaks and independent water areas if applicable.

When possible, it is good practice to provide the children with shaded areas using gazebos, sun parasols etc. and water play activities.

In the event of extreme weather (thunderstorms, high winds) we will follow the Environmental Incidents risk assessment. Access to the garden will be assessed by management.

The sick child.

In the event that a child is ill at nursery, staff will follow the guidelines as below and in accordance with The Health protection Guidelines, to ensure the children are comfortable, supervised in a separate area and assessed carefully until the parents arrive.

In case of high temperatures, parents will be asked for permission to administer a paracetamol-based medicine. Staff will check the child's medical form for permissions and will assess whether the child needs to be collected.

Children with sickness and diarrhoea will need to be excluded for 48 hours after the symptoms are clear to avoid further cases. In the event of contagious diseases, the sterilisation process will be heightened.

Conditions that are contagious have guidelines for exclusions. When necessary, staff should be clear to use these guidelines and advise parents in each scenario.

Parents are advised to see a GP if symptoms are persistent or re-occurring and we may require a note from the GP before re-admission to nursery.

If your child has had a general anaesthetic, we will not be able to admit them until there has been at least 24 hour period. If they are prescribed medication, they can only be admitted into the setting, if they are well enough and when the second dose is due, this is due to any reactions that may occur and time for the medication to start working. Please understand there can be no exceptions to this rule except for a repeat prescription of the same medication (inclusive of dosage and strength) with no break between courses of medication. Greenacres recommends that on the day of a child's immunisations that they do not attend nursery.

Any children that have had professional medical treatment that requires aftercare will need to have a 'return to nursery' form completed before returning to the setting.

Parents should sign medicine administration records and any details of illness should be recorded.

If a child has not attended that day and we have not been notified of the absence, a courtesy call will be given so any information can be passed on or logged if necessary. Staff are to keep non attendance records on all children.

Nappy Procedure

1. Ensure access to adequate hand washing facilities with hot and cold running water supply.
2. Ensure all necessary equipment is close to hand before starting the nappy change.
3. Always wear disposable gloves and aprons are available if required.
4. Ensure the nappy mat is not ripped or cracked and is cleaned with disinfectant and dried with disposable green towel before and after each nappy change.
5. Creams and lotions with consent must not be shared between children and a clean glove must be worn when applying.
6. Unless the parent has asked otherwise, clean the child thoroughly with wipes after removing the used nappy. (Girls should always be wiped away from the genital area.)
7. Whilst nappy changing, always ensure that the child is safe and comfortable. Speak to them gently throughout this procedure, never leaving them alone for a moment.
8. Once the clean nappy has been applied, gently sit the child up and place them back to their area to continue to play.
9. Clean nappy changing area thoroughly and dispose of all soiled and wet items in a double wrapped bag and place in the nappy bin. Then wash your hands and use antibacterial gel between nappy changes.

Toilet/potty Training

1. Ensure that there is a clear toileting plan arranged between the parents and the staff members that works well at home and in the nursery environment for consistency.

2. Children need to feel comfortable and reassured at all times and know that it is fine if there are accidents in the process of mastering toileting.
3. Every child's toileting experience will be different, some parents prefer to move straight into 'Big girls/Boys pants', others prefer pull-ups. Some prefer to go on a potty and may even need to bring in one from home to make themselves feel comfortable, others will go straight to the toilet.
4. It is important that we find a space to change children that is private, but also where the child is comfortable. Some children could feel uncomfortable being taken to the bathroom if they had had an accident, you may need to find a private space within the room that makes the child comfortable and still private to change them or even for them to use a potty.
5. Ensure any potties are disinfected, ready for the next use. Ensure any accidents are cleaned up immediately.

Animals on premises

We sometimes have activities that may involve animals being brought to the premises. This activity must have a risk assessment written beforehand and any allergies accounted for. Health measures such as antibacterial gel is used after handling of all animals.

Helping children cope in an emergency.

Unexpected events can be frightening and traumatic for everyone, especially for young children. There are several ways you can help the children in your care to cope with their feelings.

- Reassure the children they will not be left alone and that you are there to protect them.
- Be aware of changes in a child's behaviour, but also know some children may not outwardly show their distress.
- Be vigilant about physical distress such as a pending asthma attack or a child wetting themselves.
- Keep to routines such as meals, activities and naps as much as possible.
- Give simple, but truthful answers to the children's questions to make sure the children understand your answers.

- Give children the opportunity to express their feelings through activities such as playacting, using dolls, storytelling and drawing.
- Be especially supportive of the children's feelings and need to be close. Give lots of smiles, hugs and kind words.
- Reassure children where necessary.
- Where possible, take time away from the children to make sure you can manage your own fears and anxieties by talking to other adults. Be aware of any adult's physical reaction to the situation.

Early Help Assessment

Early help is a process of assessment and referral to involve other professionals to work with the child and their family. The setting, parents and other professionals meet to discuss any actions made. (TAC-Team around the child) The aim of Early help is to provide support, ensuring the child's well-being is paramount and to prevent any needs from escalating.

Children's wellbeing

The wellbeing of the children is very important, we have regular activities with resources such as puppets and emotion cards. We promote independence with the children supporting them building on their self-esteem.

We have a daily reflection time in which we use essential oils in a diffuser. We talk about what we can smell, we do breathing exercises, whilst we talk about parts of our body. This helps the children to have some calming time, to think about their day so far and what's coming next. Children can feel so relaxed and focused after this session, it really does help to promote positive wellbeing and mindfulness.

Guidelines for children under 1 years of age:

- No pineapple to be eaten
- plastic cutlery to be used at all mealtimes
- No whole milk unless parents have signed to give permission

- No bottles, hooded clothing or hair bands/clips allowed in any cots (also applies to older children in cots or on beds)