

Rainbow Early Years

Physical Care policy

Statement of intent

Rainbow Early Years (REY) intends that all children, whilst in our care, to be happy and well cared for in a manner that is familiar to them.

Aim

We aim to ensure that all children have their physical needs attended to in the most appropriate manner, according to the wishes of their parents/carers.

Methods

As a group, REY is aware that all children have differing individual care needs that change and evolve as they develop. In conjunction with the child's parents/carers we will ensure these needs are met to the satisfaction of all involved.

In order to achieve this we will ensure the following are in place: -

Before the child starts

- The manager will allocate a Keyperson to each child when they first start at REY and they will spend time with each family discussing the child's individual needs.
- Alongside this we have a 'buddy' Keyperson system. So a second person who will get to know the child and support them if the Keyperson is not at the setting.
- Parents/Carers can have face to face conversations with the Manager or allocated Keyperson to get to know the child and understand the families wishes.
- All parents are asked to complete registration forms giving as much detail as they feel necessary and return them to their

Keyperson. The forms are then stored securely at REY and referred to as necessary.

- If there are any specific physical needs the child has e.g. regular medication, disabilities, etc. that the staff need specific training for, this must be completed prior to the child starting with REY
- Each family will be given a 'Welcome Pack' which contains useful information on what can be expected from REY.

Toileting

- The children are free to use the toilets and potty's provided independently as and when they wish whilst they are attending REY.
- In consultation with the parent/carer the Keypersons will encourage or take to the toilet any child as necessary.
- The Keypersons will encourage all children to maintain their own cleanliness following using the toilet, but if it becomes obvious that the child needs further support then the Keyperson will assist if necessary.
- Should an toileting 'accident' happen the Keyperson will take the child to get changed away from the other children, attracting as little attention as possible.
- Wet or soiled clothes will be placed securely in a plastic/nappy bag, labelled and returned to the parent/carer when they collect.
- For children who are wearing nappies please refer to our Nappy changing policy for further guidance.

General

- Parent/carers are advised to bring in each day their child attends, at least one complete change of clothes ideally more and nappy changing items (if necessary). All these items should be brought in a named bag which will be stored on the child's named peg whilst they are here.
- Spare clothes are kept at REY and can be used by any child if the need arises, but parents/carers are asked to wash and return these items as soon as possible.
- Spare nappy changing items will be kept in the Adult Toilet area, i.e. if the parent/carer has not brought in their bag or items have not been replaced after previous use. Should this be necessary the Keyperson will inform the parent/carer who is collecting to remind them that all such items should be at REY when their child attends.
- All parents/carers are advised that their child should have a suitable outdoor coat/jacket with them each day. This is because

the outdoor area is accessed each day by the children. Adequate shelter is available here at all times irrespective of the weather.

- Children will often need wellington boots for outdoor play also.
- We keep a supply of suitable wet weather clothing that the children can access independently.
- We ask that all coats/jackets are clearly labelled with the child's name as this ensures accurate identification of your child's belongings.
- Rain jackets, over-trousers and wellington boots are available at REY to go for welly walks or join in particularly messy outdoor play if required.
- Should we experience hot/sunny weather we ask that all parents/carers apply sun cream to their child before they attend for the session/day.
- If a named bottle of sun cream is included in the child's bag, the Keypersons will be happy to assist the child to re-apply as and when necessary throughout the day. We do not encourage children to share sun cream.
- The children are expected to wear a hat in sunny conditions when they are playing outdoors; REY have a number of spare hats that can be borrowed if necessary.
- REY promotes children's outdoor play daily. Therefore parents/carers need to supply appropriate clothing to enable children to access outdoor play in all weather conditions.
- Children staying all day need to bring a healthy lunchbox (no nut products) and drink or a hot school dinner can be ordered through the Office Administrator.
- In hot weather conditions children should be supplied with more than one drink. Drinking water is available at all times.

This individual policy forms part of a larger policy document and should be read alongside our other individual policies.

Date adopted for Rainbow Early Years: January 2011

Reviewed: August 2017 by the Manager.

Reviewed: 14-8-18 by the Manager.

Reviewed: 30-08-19 by the Manager.

Reviewed: 4-8-20 by the Manager.

Date of next review: Annually