

**Risk Assessment**

Woodlands Day Nursery & Preschool aims to ensure that all activities, trips and outings, materials and equipment are safe for the children. The purpose of tis policy is to ensure that any hazards associated with these are identified and removed or minimised to an acceptable level of risk.

Woodlands Day Nursery & Preschool believes that children need some level of risk in their activities, trips and outings in order to ensure that they continue to develop, but these risks are assessed to ensure that any risks are appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children involved.

It is the responsibility of the nursery manager(s) under the Health and Safety Work Act 1974 to ensure that risks to staff, parents and children are minimised or eliminated wherever possible. It is the responsibility of the nursery manager(s) to ensure that risk assessments are completed for all setting activities.

Risk assessments must be carried out on all and new activities that take place in the setting. It is identified that some activities with a low level of risk will not be assessed for risk on every occasion. Assessments ae carried out in order to turn identified hazards into risks that are acceptable for the children in the setting. Risk assessments commonly look at the activity that is planned; identified hazards associated with the activity and strategies to reduce the hazard to an acceptable risk.

Hazards are identified as something that will cause harm to one or more people if controls are not put in place to minimise their impact.

Risks are identified as something that may cause harm to one or more persons depending on what controls are put in place.

**Risk Assessment Procedure**

When performing a risk assessment, the member of staff looks at the following elements;

* The Activity
* The Hazard (the hazards identified from the activities and the frequency of injury if no control measures are put in place)
* Outcome and potential severity (what is the worst that can happen and to how many people)
* Risk reduction and control (what measure will you put into place to reduce the hazard)
* Evaluation (what is the frequency of injury occurring now that control measures have been put into place and what is the worst that can happen and to how many people now that control measures have been put into place)