Supervision of Children Policy

At Muddy Puddles we have suitable staffing arrangements to meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety. The nursery manager is responsible for all staff, students, relief and agency staff receiving information on health and safety policies and procedures in the nursery in order to ensure they are adequately supervising the children, including whilst they are eating.

Supervision of children

We ensure that children are supervised adequately at all times, whether children are in or out of the building, including eating through:

- Appropriately deploying staff members, meeting the ratio and qualification requirements of the EYFS to ensure children's needs are met and continuing to monitor this across the setting regularly. This includes informing parents about staff deployment and, when relevant and practical, involving them in these decisions
- Making sure that every child is always within the sight and/or hearing of a suitably vetted member of staff
- Whilst eating, every child will be within sight and hearing of a suitably competent member of staff; there will always be a member of staff in the room with a valid paediatric first aid certificate
- Completing registers as soon as soon children enter and leave the premises and carrying out head counts throughout the day
- Risk assessing activities, experiences and equipment to ensure children are not exposed to unnecessary risks, including removal of any choking hazards and fully supervising any activities that may pose this risk
- Ensuring children are fully supervised at all times when involved in all types of water play as we are aware that children can drown in only a few centimeters of water
- Taking special care when children are using large apparatus e.g. a climbing frame, and when walking up or down steps or stairs
- Support children to identify, minimize and manage risks in their play
- Making sure staff recognize and are aware of any dangers relating to bushes, shrubs and plants when on visits or outdoors
- Supervising children at all times when eating, monitoring toddlers and babies closely and never leaving babies alone with a bottle. Babies are always bottle fed by a member of staff
- Supervising sleeping babies and children and never leaving them unattended
- Never leaving babies or children unattended during nappy changing times
- Supervising children carefully when using scissors or tools, including using knives in cooking activities where this is required
- Increasing staff: child ratios during outings to ensure supervision and safety (please refer to Visits and outings policy)
- Strictly following any safety guidelines given by other organisations or companies relating to the hire of equipment or services e.g. hire of a bouncy castle
- A member of staff MUST supervise the children at all times.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
01/03/2026	Heather Black	*01/03/2027*