



St Marys Pre-School
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13 Looking after our environment policy and procedure

It is the policy of St Marys Pre-School to:

- Appreciate and value our living world and our environment
- Encourage and enable children in our care to develop their understanding of the living world and the impact we all have on it, and to be 'mindful citizens'
- Ensure our working practice supports the environment.

We do this by appreciating living things and learning about and respecting our local and wider community in the following ways:

- Children take part in planting and caring for plants (flowers and vegetables) both indoors and outside
- Children take an active role in growing, harvesting, cooking and eating vegetables
- Children help care for any animals kept at the provision, learning how to respect their needs and habits
- Activities are planned to explore and reinforce the concept of caring for living things in our world
- Adults are positive role models, showing their respect for living things in our world
- Children are taken on walks in the immediate vicinity, where discussion is encouraged and follow-up activities (such as map making, documenting, photography) are carried out
- Children are encouraged to use litter and recycling bins inside and outside our premises and understand why
- Children take part in tidying, clearing and cleaning activities as appropriate to their age and stage of development
- Recycling is integral to the way we (staff and children) work with and dispose of equipment and resources
- Children know that we recycle uncooked vegetable waste and help maintain our compost bin, learning to understand its role in our provision and the wider community
- Children help clear dishes after meals, clearing left over food into the food caddy and learn to

understand what happens to it

- Children learn that we use water carefully and how a lack of water affects the local and wider community
- Children are included in decision making about what happens to equipment when it is no longer fit for them to use
- Domestic strength, environmentally friendly substances such as washing up liquid and cleaning fluid, are used in the provision (please refer to our written risk assessment)
- Activities are planned to develop and nurture children's natural curiosity about their location and the world around them, including cultural diversity (please refer to our equality and inclusion policy)
- Members of the local community (such as post people, police, fire service, farmers and so on) are invited to our setting to tell us about their roles and responsibilities, how they help us and how we can help them
- Visits to shops, the fire station, farms, factories, municipal recycling area, library, and so on are undertaken
- St Marys Pre-School commits to take part in local/national eco-friendly schemes that benefit children's experience and understanding of the wider community.

This **looking after our environment** policy and procedure was passed for use in St Marys Pre-School.

On:

By:

Position:

Date of planned review: