



Equipment and Resources Policy:

We believe that high quality care and education is promoted by providing children with safe, clean, attractive, age and stage appropriate resources, toys and equipment. Here at Ducklings Childcare Ltd we:

- Provide play equipment and resources which are safe, and where applicable, conform to the BS EN safety standards and/or Toys (Safety) Regulation (2011). We provide adequate insurance cover for the nursery's resources and equipment.
- Provide a sufficient quantity of equipment and resources for the number of children.
- Select books, equipment and resources which promote positive images of people of all races, cultures, ages and abilities, are non-discriminatory and avoid racial and gender stereotyping.
- Provide play equipment and resources which promote all areas of children's learning, development, continuity and progression; provide sufficient challenges and meet the needs and interests of all children.
- Store and display resources and equipment where children can independently choose and select them. Where appropriate, children will be consulted in selecting new equipment and toys.
- Check all resources and equipment regularly as they are set out at the beginning of each session and put away at the end of each session. We repair and clean, or replace any unsafe, worn out, dirty or damaged equipment.
- Keep an inventory of resources and equipment. This records the date on which each item was purchased and the price paid for it.
- Plan the provision of activities and appropriate resources so that a balance of familiar equipment and resources and new exciting challenges is offered.
- Teach children to respect the equipment and resources and tidy these away when play has finished. This should be into a designated place via the use of recognisable photographs the children can match the resource to.

Trampoline

We are insured for the children to use trampolines. We will make sure that any trampoline the children are permitted to use has all the



necessary safety equipment e.g. child safety guards and is in good working order.

Skipping Rope

There have been several serious incidents with skipping ropes so we have decided to implement these guidelines:

- **Footwear** – children will need to wear supportive footwear. Children may need to be encouraged to wear trainers for playground skipping if their outdoor shoes are not considered to be safe.
- **Space** – children need to be made aware that they require adequate space all around them to be able to swing the rope without making contact with other ropes or skippers. A designated playground area is therefore advised and other non-skipping children should also be made aware of the dangers.
- **Clothing** – sensible, loose-fitting clothing which allows free movement of the legs and arms.
- **Weather conditions** – certain wet playground conditions or very hot lunchtimes may be considered unsafe.
- **Fluid intake** – this is particularly important in warm weather conditions to avoid dehydration and prevent the body from overheating. Children are not as efficient as adults in controlling body temperature.
- **Rope length** – for individual skipping, when children stand in the middle of the rope and pull the handles upwards, the rope handles should reach the armpits. They can be shortened by tying knots at each end just below the handles.
- **Inappropriate use of the ropes** – children need to be made fully aware of the possible dangers of not using the ropes appropriately and correctly. In some cases, adult supervision may be necessary.