# CAMBO WRAPAROUND Promoting Health and Hygiene

Animals in the Setting

# POLICY STATEMENT

Children learn about the natural world, its animals and other living creatures, as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. This may include contact with animals, or other living creatures, either in the setting or in visits. We aim to ensure that this is in accordance with sensible hygiene and safety controls.

## Procedures

#### Animals in the setting as pets

- We take account of the views of parents and children when selecting an animal or creature to visit as a pet in our setting.
- We carry out a risk assessment with a knowledgeable person accounting for any hygiene or safety risks posed by the animal or creature (our Cambo Wraparound Committee Secretary, Nanette Robson, is a qualified veterinary surgeon and works part-time for the PDSA, we would strongly follow all her advice and recommendations when doing our risk assessment regarding visits from pets).
- We make sure all vaccinations and other regular health measures, such as de-worming are up-to-date and recorded.
- Children are taught correct handling and care of the animal or creature and are supervised.
- Children wash their hands after handling the animal or creature and do not have contact with animal soil or soiled bedding.
- Staff wear disposable gloves when cleaning housing or handling soiled bedding.
- If animals or creatures are brought in by visitors to show the children they are the responsibility of the owner.
- The owner carries out a risk assessment, detailing how the animal or creature is to be handled and how any safety or hygiene issues will be addressed.

#### Visits to farms

- Before a visit to a farm a risk assessment is carried out this may take account of safety factors listed in the farm's own risk assessment which should be viewed.
- The outings procedure is followed.
- Children wash their hands after contact with animals.
- Outdoor footwear worn to visit farms are cleaned of mud and debris and should not be worn indoors.

#### Legal framework

 The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 www.opsi.gov.uk/SI/si1999/19993242.htm

## Further guidance

 Health and Safety Regulation...a short guide (HSE 2003) www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/hsc13.pdf