



EQUIPMENT

Our Club is committed to providing children with access to a wide range of equipment that stimulates enjoyment, learning and development, both indoors and outdoors.

All furniture, toys and equipment are kept clean, well maintained and in good repair and in accordance with BS EN safety standards or the Toys (Safety) Regulations (1995) where applicable.

Equipment will be properly maintained and inspected in accordance with the manufacturers instructions. All electrical toys and equipment are subject to PAT (Portable Appliance Testing), and that relevant staff are trained on the correct use of computers and IT equipment.

Levels of staff supervision will be sufficient to ensure that the safety of children is assured, and set accordingly to the type of equipment being used, along with the ages and number of children involved in any given activity.

All equipment will be selected with care, and risk assessments carried out before new toys and equipment are purchased, according to the principles of the Risk Assessment policy.

The Club has equipment and resources suitable for all children currently in attendance, including those with special educational needs, physical disabilities and those for who English is not their first language.

The Club's equipment and resources *(1) reflects positive images with regard to culture, ethnicity, gender and disability.

Resources will, whenever possible, show men and women in a variety of roles and jobs, and people with different abilities being both creative and active. Examples of everyday life will portray people from a variety of family groupings and cultural backgrounds in a range of non-stereotypical roles.

The Club provides a wide selection of books that are regularly updated, as financial resources allow. The selection will always include reference books and a range of age-appropriate formats. Staff are encouraged to select books that reflect a multicultural society, challenge stereotypes, and which meet the educational needs of the children.

Outside a Club's opening hours, all equipment will be stored in a suitable and secure location; safe from unauthorised access or use. When discovered, defective or broken equipment will be taken out of use and stored in a safe place before being disposed of. Flammable equipment will be stored in a location away from sources of heat and/or naked flames.

There will be a named member of staff with responsibility for planning and reviewing the stock of equipment, and annually updating the Club's Inventory Record. The Inventory Record must include all electrical items, all items valued at £50 or more and any other item not otherwise included that is considered to be at high risk of theft. The Inventory record will be kept in the Club's Information Folder, and be updated whenever a new item is added or when an old item is removed from use.

The Manager, or a designated member of staff, will keep a formal record of any item of equipment loaned to a member of staff, a voluntary organisation or a parent/carer to ensure that it is returned on time and in a good state.

*(1) Equipment refers to such things as books and toys while Resources could include posters, audio/video equipment, stationary, the rooms used or documents.

**Relates to EYFS Theme: Learning and Development
Principle 4.1 Play and Exploration**

9th June 2009