**Maintenance and Replacement of play Equipment Policy**

Facilitating play

We support and facilitate play by:

• Providing an environment which is safe and suitable for playing in.

• Setting up the Club so that activities are ready before the children arrive.

• Providing a range of equipment, resources and activities on a daily basis, and keeping a record of these to ensure that varied play opportunities are offered

• Encouraging children to request additional or alternative equipment as they choose, and if a request has to be refused, explaining why.

• Not expecting children to be occupied at all times.

• Making outdoor play available every day, unless the weather is particularly bad.

• Involving children in planning activities, to reflect their own interests and ideas.

• Planning activities that enable children to develop their natural curiosity and imagination.

• Allowing children freedom of creative expression, particularly in artistic or creative play.

• Intervening in play only when necessary: to reduce risks of accident or injury, or to encourage appropriate social skills.

• Warning children in advance when an activity or game is due to end.

Play areas and equipment

• All indoor and outdoor play areas are checked and risk assessed daily before the children arrive in. This does not need to be a written assessment just visually, to ensure safe practice, but in our daily risk assessment there is a section on toys to be completed.

• The Club keeps an inventory of resources and equipment, which is updated regularly and reviewed to identify where any additional resources are required.

• Children are involved in selecting additional equipment and resources for use at the Club.

• The resources used at the Club promote positive images of different ethnic backgrounds, religions, and abilities, in line with our Equal Opportunities policy.

• The Club has a selection of fiction and non-fiction books, suitable for all age ranges.

We provide play in lots of areas, construction, art, sensory, cooking, role play, games etc staff just bring new ideas daily to our team meetings so we can put them into our planning

If any toys are broken, they are removed, it is then recorded, and replaced where possible.

\*NOTE\* If toys start to become broken on purpose by children, we may ask parents to compensate for the damage

Reviewed January 2022