

## Equipment and Resources Policy

### Statement of intent

We believe that high quality early years care and education are promoted by providing children with safe, clean, attractive, developmentally appropriate resources, toys and equipment.

We also believe that having natural resources, recyclable materials and loose parts enhances children's play. We ensure they are safe and fit for purpose.

### Aim

We aim to provide children with resources and equipment that help to consolidate and extend their knowledge, skills, interests, and aptitudes.

### Methods

In order to achieve this aim, we:

- provide play equipment and resources that are safe and - where applicable - conform to the BSEN safety standards or Toys (Safety) Regulation (1995).
- provide a sufficient quantity of equipment and resources for the number of children.
- provide resources that promote all areas of children's learning and development, which may be child or adult led.
- select books, equipment and resources that promote positive images of people of all colours, cultures, and abilities, are non-discriminatory and avoid racial and gender stereotyping.
- provide play equipment and resources that promote continuity and progression, provide sufficient challenge and meet the needs and interests of all children.;
- provide made, natural and recycled materials that are clean, in good condition and safe for the children to use.

- provide real food for role play but ensure there are no children with allergies or that the food would harm children if eaten.
- provide furniture that is suitable for children and furniture that is suitable for adults.
- store and display resources and equipment where children can independently choose and select them.
- regularly check all resources and equipment that are available at each session and ensure they are put away at the end of each session. We repair and clean, or replace, any unsafe, worn out, dirty or damaged equipment.
- review the balance of resources and equipment so that they can support a range of activities across all areas of play, learning and development and that they are both age appropriate and reflect the children's interests.
- provide adequate insurance cover for the setting's resources and equipment.
- use the local library and toy library to introduce new books and a variety of resources to support children's interests; and
- plan the provision of activities and appropriate resources so that a balance of familiar equipment and resources and new exciting challenges is offered.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Belton Playgroup Association:

Held on: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024

Signed on behalf of committee: 

Name and role of signatory: Emma Wood, Chair of committee

Review date: April 2025