



Equipment and Resources Policy

Statement of intent

At Little Legs Montessori we believe that high quality early years care and education are promoted by providing children with safe, clean, attractive, developmentally appropriate resources and equipment to help the child reach their full potential, academically, spiritually, emotionally and physically.

Aim

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

Method

In order to achieve this aim we:

- Provide Montessori equipment, 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 cultures, sexes, ages and abilities, are non-discriminatory and avoid racial and gender stereotyping.
- Provide equipment and resources that promote continuity and progression, provide sufficient challenge and meet the needs and interests of all children.
- Provide natural and recycled materials that are clean, in good condition and safe for the children to use.
- 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 clean and tidy at the end of each session.
- Plan the provision of activities and appropriate resources so that a balance of familiar equipment and resources and new exciting challenges is offered.

Safety

- We check all resources and equipment at the beginning and during each session
- A daily Risk Assessment is used to record any damage, copies of which will be found in the Daily Risk Assessment File.
- We repair and clean, or replace any unsafe, worn out, dirty or damaged equipment (**see risk assessment folder**)
- Children are supervised at all times on the outdoor play equipment and when using breakable objects indoors, as part of the Montessori method of education.

Appropriate furniture

- We provide furniture which is suitable for children and furniture which is suitable for adults;
- We have sufficient numbers of child sized chairs and tables to allow flexible arrangements for groups of children to play and eat together.
- The shelves where resources are stored, are all at child height to ensure children are able to independently self select and guide their own learning.

The following procedures and documentation in relation to this policy are:

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

- *Section 3: The Safeguard and Welfare Requirements 2012- 3.53-3.54*

Health Protection Agency (HPA)

- Infection Prevention and Communicable Disease Control for Early Years June 2011

Preschool Policies

- Health & Safety
- Promoting Equality
- Risk Assessment

This policy was adopted by

(name of provider)

On

(date)

Date to be reviewed

(date)

Signed on behalf of the provider

Name of signatory

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner)