



The Rocking Horse
Montessori Nursery

7.3 Policy for very wet Weather and Particularly Cold Weather

Children need fresh air and exercise on a daily basis. It is our duty of care to ensure that they are given this and to make sure that they are dry and warm when they come inside.

The Manager of the Day should assess the weather in the morning and make a decision on how long the children should spend outside.

The Teachers taking the children outside should ensure that all children have their coats on underneath the puddlesuits with the hoods up. In cold weather the children should be wearing hats, gloves and a warm coat.

Outside:

- Children should be allowed to play but not just stand or sit in the rain.
- Care should be taken on the decking area in wet conditions.
- The ladder and slide should be closed off.
- If the teachers decide that the children are getting too wet, there is space for the group to stay undercover outside. Activities can be set up in the tough tray and in the play house.
- In cold weather the children should be encouraged to move around to keep warm, this can be made into a fun activity by means of a short exercise session (eg running on the spot, jumping, hopping, wiggling arms and fingers etc.).
- A basket of spare gloves and hats will be available for any child who has forgotten to bring in theirs.
- Two microwavable animals available in the kitchen cupboard for any child that gets particularly cold. The manager will bring these up to the garden on request.

- If the conditions deteriorate during the outdoor session then the garden time should be shortened.
- If the staff on duty outside feel that any child is too cold or wet outside they should ask the supernumerary member of staff to bring them into the classroom.

Inside:

- Every child should be individually checked to ensure their indoor clothes are dry. If they are wet they should be changed into dry clothes.
- Any wet coats, shoes or socks can be dried on the big radiator in the conservatory.
- Puddlesuits should be hung up to dry on the radiator at the end of the day if particularly wet.