

EYFS Equipment Policy

ENABLING ENVIRONMENTS: 3.3 The Learning Environment

(supports EYFS 4.1 Play and Exploration, 4.4 Areas of Learning and Development)

Rationale

In Queen's we provide the children with furniture, equipment, toys and resources that meet the teaching and learning needs appropriate to their age, as well as their social, physical, emotional, educational, spiritual and cultural needs and development.

Implementation of the policy in Queen's:

The senior management team must ensure that:

- new members of staff, including students and volunteers, receive copies of the equipment policy and that this is discussed with them during their induction meeting.

Toys

- All our toys meet the appropriate safety standards and regulations.
- All our toys are appropriate for the children's age and stage of development.
- All our toys are clean and well maintained.
- Toys are clearly labelled and stored in a safe and tidy way.
- Toys are made accessible to the children so that they are able to make free choices and work or play independently.
- We choose resources, such as books and toys, which promote positive images of all races, cultures, social backgrounds, gender and abilities.
- We offer toys that provide sensory experiences to help language development.
- We supply toys that offer emotional comfort and support to less-confident children.
- We provide enough toys to give children a varied and stimulating range of resources, promoting imagination, fun and flexibility, and encouraging open-ended activities.

Furniture

- We provide enough furniture to create a comfortable and relaxed environment for all the children.
- All new furniture that we purchase takes into account the age, size, height, physical ability and disability of all the children.

- Furniture is kept clean and well maintained and meets all the safety standards.
- All furniture that is not in use is stored safely, not stacked in any way that puts children or staff at risk.
- Furniture never creates an obstruction to emergency exits.

Other resources

- Tools and equipment such as scissors, staplers, hammers or nails are stored and labelled and children are taught how to handle them correctly and safely.
- Children are encouraged to collect and save clean and safe recycled household and natural materials to use again.

Links, References and regulations

Links to other policies

- Organisation
- Care, Learning and Play
- Physical Environment
- Safety
- Food and Drink
- Equal Opportunities
- Special Needs
- Documentation

References

[DCSF, EYFS September 2008 Statutory Framework: Suitable premises, environment and equipment p33, 34, 35](#)

Review: The Early Years team will review the policy every two years.

Date: February 2011

Signed: