



61. Risky and Challenging Play Policy

At Sunshine Children's Centre we understand the positive impact risky play can have on a child's development and self-esteem, therefore we actively promote children's exposure to taking risks and facing challenges but in a controlled and safe environment.

Some examples of these risks are:

- Using real tools when creating woodwork
- Playing with toys/resources and taking part in activities suitable for an older age range – such as building towers, using scissors, threading with beads etc.
- Outdoor activities such as building with tyres, planks and pallets etc. Using spades and forks in the mud and balancing and jumping from climbing equipment.
- Rolling, jumping, climbing, den building and forest schooling.

This is in no way an exhaustive list but these are examples of activities we offer and resources that are available.

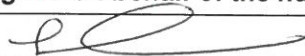
As part of our Curiosity Approach, children are exposed to real items throughout their day both indoors and outdoors. Real items for the baby and toddler room can include metal, wood and pottery. As the children learn how to handle real objects we will introduce real tools within the preschool rooms, pottery and sturdy glass in the preschool rooms. Again, this will depend on the needs of each child and will be thoroughly risk assessed.

In the baby and toddler rooms, small parts are choke tested as part of the risk assessment. If found to be a choking hazard then they will not be used. Small parts are used in the preschool rooms and their use is risk assessed against individual children.

Staff risk assess before each activity takes place or new resource is brought into the setting and because we know each child so well as an individual we can confidently decide if a resource or activity is suitable for them – or we may adapt them so that each child can take part in their own way.

New activities and resources are risk assessed to ensure they are not toxic or present any potential real harm to any child.

Activities and resources will be supported by a capable and confident adult when and where needed – this could be 1 adult to each child with eyes on the child at all times or 1 adult to a small group of children.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
16/4/21		16/4/22