

Policies and Procedures: Large Garden Equipment.

It is a well known fact that exercise is vital to aid the physical development of young children and to encourage them to continue a healthy lifestyle in to their adult years.

As an Ofsted registered Childminder, I encourage the children in my care to join in all sorts of different physical activities and provide a range of resources to make it fun and enjoyable.

In my garden I have a range of outdoor equipment. Whilst this provides lots of opportunities for developing new physical skills and enjoyment, it also brings danger. Children need to learn about danger and risk-taking - however in order to make my garden a safe environment, and to reduce the risk of potential accidents, I will ensure that:

- All young minded children are supervised at all times by a responsible adult.
- Older children may be supervised by a much older child (13+) with your permission.
- Children are taught the dangers of the equipment in a way that is suitable for their age and stage of development and understanding.
- Children are encouraged to take turns and share equipment.
- The equipment is checked regularly for wear and tear/damage and any faulty equipment is withdrawn immediately.
- The equipment is cleaned and checked at the start of each day and then regularly thereafter.
- Children are encouraged to participate, but will not be made to do any activity they are uncomfortable with.
- In extreme weather I will ensure that the equipment is not too hot or too cold to reduce the risk of burns and skin damage.

If you have any concerns regarding your child using any piece of equipment, please discuss them with me.

First Written: 31st July 2014 Last Updated: 28th September 2018 Signed:

Date Reviewed	Signed