

Policies and Procedures: Media.

I think that children can learn a lot from the various forms of media around. We often have music playing in the Barn and on car journeys and allow children to watch movies or episodes of kids TV shows.

I ensure that all viewing and listening is suitable for all the children present and will not have the volume too loud or allow children to sit too close to a screen.

TELEVISION/MOVIES

I limit the time children in my care are permitted to watch the television.

The watching of television programmes and movies isn't a regular occurrence and is normally restricted to:

- A short session after lunch to provide the children with a quiet time to rest and allow their dinner to go down.
- A short session after the school pick up to give older children a chance to recharge their batteries.
- One movie length session on days when the children choose to play cinemas. (These days happen once every school holiday week if requested).
- An episode (for example) of 'Come Outside' explaining how glass is recycled to help children learn more about a topic.

I ensure that all programmes watched are suitable for all the children in my care. We currently have no access to TV in the Barn, so all things watched are DVD, Netflix or Amazon downloads. All movies I allow the children to watch are rated as 'Universal' unless I have permission from you to watch certain movies rated as needing 'Parental Guidance'.

MUSIC

Playing music gives children an opportunity to explore rhythm and express themselves through movement as well as improving their listening skills. We will often have Alexa playing an eclectic variety of music. I will also make sure there are times with no music to give children a diverse range of hearing opportunities. Any song we listen to will have 'suitable' lyrics.

We usually have Disney or kids TV theme tunes/party songs playing, however we also listen to other types of music. A favourite amongst the preschool and older children is the most recent 'Now' album. These are always edited version.

Children are involved in making a playlist for the Barn Alexa, but I ensure all the lyrics are suitable (even down to editing out the Spice Girls Christmas song that's says FC "don't exist anymore"!!!)

If you would like more information about how background music and song can help your child develop, please look at this website:

<http://www.communityplaythings.co.uk/learning-library/articles/learning-through-music>

YOUTUBE

I may allow children to watch short video clips on YouTube related to an activity based topic (eg when making volcanoes, videos of lava). These videos will, where possible, be vetted in advance as well as having a child lock proxy on the internet, blocking any websites containing words/information deemed unsuitable. (Refer to 'Internet' policy for more information).

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media accounts, such as Facebook, can be a great tool to help keep good communications between home and childcare. We have an EllyTotts Facebook page which we will use to post occasional updates. Older children are encouraged to help write these posts as it's a great learning opportunity, however will NEVER have unsupervised access to any account. Likewise, social media outlets such as Facebook can be a great way for us to see what your child is doing at home without you having to write us lengthy paragraphs. If you would like us to be able to use your Facebook account as a way of us knowing things your child has done at home, please add 'Elly-Mai Mawson' on facebook. It is requested that you do not add any other member of staff or Elly's personal account (Elly Mawson) to ensure staff are not put in a position that may breach their contracts.

Please refer to the staff social media policy for further guidelines.

HOME ELECTRONICS

Any electronic devices children bring in from home are brought in in the understanding that camera aps are not to be used. EM reserves the right to search them to ensure no photos have been taken. Home devices will not be allowed to be connected to the internet. The time children spend on their own electronic device will be kept in line with EllyTotts guidelines. Children are not allowed to bring in mobile phones. If your child needs a phone with them (eg going to a different relative on pick up) then the phone must be handed to a member of staff, switched off. It will be given to the child or collecting adult on leaving the setting.

Read this policy in conjunction with Social Media, Internet and Mobile Phone for further information.

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Date Reviewed	Signed

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