

No. 8 Selecting Equipment/Toys

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup believes that high quality care and education are promoted by providing children with safe, clean, attractive resources, toys and equipment and that all these resources must be age and developmentally appropriate.

Aim

We aim to provide children with resources and equipment which help to consolidate and extend their knowledge, skills, interests and aptitudes. We achieve this aim by:

Planning

- planning the provision of activities and appropriate resources so that a balance of familiar equipment and resources and new exciting challenges is offered
- providing a sufficient quantity of equipment and resources for the number of children
- providing resources which promote all areas of children's learning and development, which may be child or adult led
- keeping an inventory of resources and equipment
- using the inventory to review the balance of resources and equipment to ensure that they support a range of activities across all areas of play, learning and development
- storing and displaying resources and equipment where children can independently choose and select them

Health and safety

- providing play equipment and resources which are safe and, where applicable, conform to the Toy (Safety) Regulations (2011) and BS EN71 safety standards – these toys carry the CE marking.
- providing furniture which is suitable for the children's age range
- checking all resources and equipment as they are set out at the beginning of a session and again as they are put away at the end of a session. Equipment is cleaned and repaired as necessary and any unsafe, worn out or damaged equipment is replaced

Types of resources

- selecting books, equipment and resources which promote positive images of people of all races, cultures and abilities, are non-discriminatory and avoid racial and gender stereotyping
- providing play equipment and resources which promote continuity and progression, providing sufficient challenge and meet the needs and interests of all children
- providing natural, recycled and manufactured materials which are clean, in good condition and safe for the children to use, which can be used in a

variety of ways and encourages an open-ended approach to creativity and problem solving

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup:

Held on:

Date to be reviewed:

Signed on behalf of the committee:

Name of signatory:

Role of signatory:

All staff members and committee members will sign to indicate they have read, understood and agreed with the above policy.