8. Policy on Use of the Climbing Frame – to include Risk Assessment

Policy Statement

Links Childcare aims to ensure the safety of each child in its care while simultaneously allowing the child to develop as an active and independent person in his or her own right. Where there is a climbing frame in the garden, children are encouraged to explore and develop their limbs, their brain and their agility. This policy outlines the potential risks involved in the use of this equipment and indicates the mitigation of these risks on a daily basis.

Principle

This policy is underwritten by the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016.

Risk Assessment

1. Damaging any part of the body by running into the frame.
2. Falling from the frame.
3. Falling why using the slide.

Mitigation of Risks

- All frames are purchased from a child equipment specialist and comply with European safety standards.
- All frames are installed over 40mm of ‘Wet Pour’ and in full compliance with safety recommendations, in terms of distance from walls/fences.
- All frames are checked daily as part of the garden risk assessment form. If weather is inclement the climbing frame is deemed to be out of use.
- Two staff members (one at each end) are located at the climbing frame at all times, with specific responsibility for its supervision, when children are in the garden.
- Only one child is allowed to slide at any one time.

Review

Management, in consultation with staff, monitors and reviews the effectiveness of this policy yearly or as required.