



# **BARNFIELDS EXTRA**

## **BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

### **Physical Environment Policy**

Barnfields Extra is committed to providing a welcoming and caring environment that provides for the children's safety and well-being and supports them in their development and learning.

We believe that the organisation and layout of the environment should enable children to be active, and involved in social and individual play activities and experiences.

#### **Implementation of the policy in Barnfields Extra**

##### **It is the responsibility of the Board of Barnfields Extra:**

- To take positive steps to establish a welcoming and friendly environment for children and parents.
- To provide a safe, secure and supportive environment for the children's care, health and well-being, as well as their development and learning.
- To provide both indoor and outdoor play activities and experiences.
- To ensure that all parents and children, including those with disabilities, have easy access to the premises.
- To ensure that all aspects of planning, design and building observe local control requirements.
- To implement specific local control requirements with regard to health and safety, planning and building requirements, provision of equipment and the use of staff.

#### **Space within Barnfields Extra**

- We provide appropriate space for children, including those with special needs and disabilities, to move freely and safely around Barnfields Extra
- We organise the space to allow a wide range of play experiences, including whole-group activities.

#### **Toilet facilities**

- We provide appropriate and sufficient toilets and washing facilities (one toilet and wash hand basin for every 10 children) for the number of

children in Barnfields Extra, as well as separate toilet facilities for adults. We ensure that facilities are clean and hygienic at all times.

- We provide appropriate space and facilities to encourage children to be independent.

### **Kitchen facilities**

- We provide snacks and drinks for children in Barnfields Extra
- We ensure that kitchen facilities comply with environmental health and food safety regulations.
- We identify specific procedures for the safety of the children relating to the kitchen facilities, including risk assessment and supervision.

### **Premises**

- We provide defined rest areas appropriate for the children's needs.
- We ensure that all areas used by Barnfields Extra are clean, and well maintained.
- We ensure that there is a working telephone on the premises to contact outside assistance, as well as to receive incoming calls.
- We have efficient systems for contacting parents, support services and other agencies.
- We ensure that all the children have easy access to drinking water, toilet facilities and eating facilities.
- We provide an environment that reflects the children's development and learning and has relevance for local cultures and communities.
- We ensure that the premises are well lit and have some natural light.
- We ensure that the premises are kept at a comfortable temperature throughout the year.
- We ensure that the premises are for the sole use of Barnfields Extra when the children are there.
- We provide safe storage facilities for all types of equipment: care and hygiene facilities, and play and learning equipment.
- We provide an area of privacy where parents, staff and other agencies can speak confidentially.

### **Indoor provision**

- We create defined areas for different play activities.
- We use the available space creatively and flexibly to provide opportunities for the children's imaginative play, movement and large-scale play activities.
- We provide opportunities for both floor play and table activities.

- We create opportunities for children to access equipment and materials independently, and choose for themselves, by using low-level open-storage shelves and boxes.
- We encourage the children to care for their environment by using some cleaning equipment brushes, dustpans, and cloths available for them to access and use independently to clean and tidy up play areas.

### **Outdoor provision**

- We offer regular opportunities for children to play in a natural environment of grass, trees and bushes.
- We have daily opportunities for children to play outside, providing open space where they can run, as well as using fixed or other play equipment.
- We ensure that there are areas of shade and shelter.
- We use the outdoor environment to offer a wide range of learning opportunities for investigation and exploration.

### **Display**

- We create a rich and stimulating environment by using visual and interactive displays.
- We provide display areas for children's own work, including pictures, drawings, writing and models.
- We ensure that displays are informative, and relevant to all families within the local community.