



KINGSWAY PLAYGROUP & PRE-SCHOOL CENTRE

ANIMAL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

At Kingsway Playgroup & Pre-School Centre we recognise that pets can help meet the emotional needs of children and adults. Caring for pets also gives children the opportunity to learn how to be gentle and responsible for others and supports their learning and development.

Playgroup pets

At Kingsway Playgroup & Pre-School Centre we have a tortoise and goldfish

- A full documented risk assessment is completed, including considerations for children with any allergies
- All pets are homed appropriately and securely
- Only staff have responsibility for cleaning out the animals. Protective equipment such as gloves and aprons are used, as appropriate.
- We ensure all pets are child-friendly
- Pets are not allowed near food, dishes, worktops or food preparation areas.
- Children will wash their hands with soap and water before and after handling animals and will be encouraged not to place their hands in their mouths while pets are being handled. The staff will explain the importance of this to the children

Animals from external places

Pets and animals from home or other external places are not generally accepted in playgroup. If other animals are to be accepted, a specific risk assessment will be carried out