



Starlings Preschool Gun and Superhero Policy

Play and Development requirement

Policy statement

We believe that children should be able to use their interests and hobbies to further develop their learning through play. We believe children should be able to explore different types of play in a safe and friendly way. All children have the right to join in the play and staff should ensure that all children can access the play they wish to join in with. Children have the right to refuse to play in other children's games. We believe that children must be able to explore different scenarios and playing superheroes and baddies is a good way for children to re-enact what they may have seen in the media.

All staff at the setting will support and help children to develop their imaginative play, so children can learn from their play experiences. The preschool will have open-ended props and materials that children can access. Children are consulted about what they think is acceptable and not acceptable play.

No actual toy guns will be permitted at the pre-school, any child who brings a toy gun will be asked to put it in the going home box. Children may make their own guns out of open-ended resources, this will support children's interests and design skills. All staff will need to remind children that they must respect toys, and that no toys or objects should be thrown.

Children may use sticks in their imaginative, creative and natural play, but sticks must never be used as weapons. All staff need to supervise children when using sticks in their play, children must be reminded that they **MUST** never run with sticks in their hands.

Procedures

- The children are consulted on what they think Superhero play and gun play should look like at our preschool.

- All staff support the children to use “golden rules” about things such as weapons and hurting each other. The staff encourage the children to think about what could happen e.g. if a child kicks another child.
- All children are reminded of the rules whilst they are playing, and at small group times.
- The preschool ensures that there is a good source of open ended resources to encourage imaginative play.
- If children make guns these must be used to play outside, due to the limited space the playgroup has inside.
- If a child does break one of the “golden rules”, staff support the child by saying what the child has done, and asks the child what they are going to do about it.
- All staff to spend time at all times through role-modelling, explanation and role-play showing children right from wrong.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Starlings Pre-school (name of provider)

Held on _____ (date)

Date to be reviewed _____ (date)

Signed on behalf of the provider _____

Name of signatory _____

Role of signatory (e.g. chair, director or owner) _____