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**Food hygiene**

(Including the procedure for reporting food poisoning)

**Policy statement**

We provide and serve food for children for snack time. The children are also supported to take part in cooking activities. The staff supporting on these activities all have up to date food hygiene training.

We maintain the highest possible food hygiene standards with regard to the purchase, storage, preparation and serving of food.

We are registered as a food provider with the local authority Environmental Health Department.

**Procedures**

* All staff involved in the preparation and handling of food have received training in food hygiene.
* The setting health and safety representative carries out daily checks on the kitchen to ensure standards are met consistently. These are recorded on the health and safety checks sheets.
* We use reliable suppliers for the food we purchase.
* Food is stored at correct temperatures and is checked to ensure it is in-date and not subject to contamination by pests, rodents or mould.
* Packed lunches are stored in a cool place. As the food is un-refrigerated it is given to the children within 4 hours of being brought into the setting.
* Food preparation areas are cleaned before use as well as after use.
* There are separate facilities for hand-washing and for washing up.
* All surfaces are clean and non-porous.
* All utensils, crockery etc are clean and stored appropriately.
* Waste food is disposed of daily.
* Cleaning materials and other dangerous materials are stored out of children's reach.
* Children do not have unsupervised access to the kitchen.
* When children take part in cooking activities, they:
* are supervised at all times;
* understand the importance of hand washing and simple hygiene rules;
* are kept away from hot surfaces and hot water; and
* do not have unsupervised access to electrical equipment, such as blenders etc.

*Reporting of food poisoning*

* Food poisoning can occur for a number of reasons; not all cases of sickness or diarrhoea are as a result of food poisoning and not all cases of sickness or diarrhoea are reportable.
* Where children and/or adults have been diagnosed by a GP or hospital doctor to be suffering from food poisoning and where it seems possible that the source of the outbreak is within the setting, the manager will contact the Environmental Health Department to report the outbreak and will comply with any investigation.
* Any confirmed cases of food poisoning affecting two or more children looked after on the premises are notified to Ofsted as soon as reasonably practicable, and always within 14 days of the incident.