

Sand Pit Policy

To ensure sand pits are clean and safe for all users.

In order to ensure our sand pit is always a safe and hygienic place for children to play and learn we will:

- Construct sandpits so that they have adequate drainage.
- Ensure sand is of a depth that can be easily raked over before each use and during the day.
- Rake sand pits at regular intervals each day and remove any dangerous or foreign matter such as animal or human faeces and urine which could cause illness or infection in children or educators.
- Wash the sandpit regularly with tap water if it is not regularly washed by the rain
- Remove toys from the sandpit at the end of each day.
- Regularly sanitise sand by raking salt thoroughly through the sand.
- Carefully remove and dispose of any contaminated sand.
- Change sand at least annually but preferably every 6 months.
- Use sand that is appropriate for use in sandpits and meets state regulations
- Cover sand pits when they are not in use.
- Ensure children wash their hands with soap and water after playing in the sandpit.

If sand is contaminated by animal or human faeces, blood or other body fluids remove all children from the sandpit and then:

- Use a shovel and dispose of the contaminated sand in a plastic bag. Educators will wear suitable protective clothing.
- Wash remaining sand thoroughly with water then rake salt through the sand at intervals during the day and leave exposed to the sun.
- Change sand completely if it is contaminated extensively.

Source: Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011, Early Years Learning Framework, National Quality Standard, Occupational Health & Safety Act 2004

Date Implemented: 16/04/2012

Review Completed: 16/01/2017

Schedule for Review: 16/01/2018

National Quality Standard – NQS

Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety

2.3.2 Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect Children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury

Education and Care Service National Regulations

168 Education and care service must have policies and procedures

