

# Coniston Early Years Centre Policy Document

## **Safeguarding and Welfare Requirement: Health**

The provider must promote the good health of children attending the setting.

Coniston Early  
Years Centre



High Quality Care for All Children  
A Firm Foundation for Education

## 6.8 Extreme Weather Policy

### **Policy Statement.**

It is our intention to maintain our normal service levels where ever possible even in extreme weather. We will do so whilst putting the children's health and safety first and foremost as always. We recognise the need for this policy in light of the increasing frequency of extreme weather due to global warming and climate change.

### **Aim of Policy**

This Policy sets out the arrangements in place within the pre-school when we experience extreme weather conditions - be they extreme heat or extreme cold. In the event that an extreme weather warning is issued we will follow government/public health advice to ensure we comply with latest guidance and legislation.

### **Procedures**

St chads Pre-school intend to use this policy to provide precautionary measures to minimise the risks to children and families in the event of an extreme weather warning. It also outlines our contingency plans to remain open in such events.

The health and safety of our children remains our highest priority and the following procedures are aimed at maintaining our high standards.

- In the event of an extreme weather warning issued by the local council/national government we will follow any guidance given at the time.
- When the weather warning relates to extreme heat we will ask parents to apply sun cream to their child prior to attending.
- We will advise parents of the best clothing to wear in such an eventuality.
- We will provide 'cooling' activities such as water/ice play both indoors and out
- We will limit the time children spend outside but only if it safe to be outside
- We will provide shade/shelter as much as possible
- We will encourage children to play quietly and to not run around excessively
- We will ensure the application of sun cream is maintained throughout the day
- We will ensure cold water is always available and children will be encouraged to drink regularly throughout the day
- Rooms will be kept well ventilated with doors and windows open at all times
- If necessary opening and closing times for the setting may need to be altered, as may children's patterns of attendance to avoid the hottest parts of the day.

- When the weather warning relates to extreme cold we will ask parents to dress their children appropriately to ensure they are able to keep warm.
- We will limit the amount of children spend outside to prevent their body temperature becoming too low and them being unable to warm themselves up.
- We will offer warm snacks and drinks to help the children maintain their body warmth.
- Children will be encouraged to keep active and to engage in vigorous physical activity during times of extreme cold.

#### Maintaining our provision.

- In extreme weather when government advice is to only travel if essential we will utilize the staff that live the nearest to the pre school and will only ask the minimum necessary amount of staff to work on those days.
- We will provide the staff with the means to maintain a safe working temperature through the use of additional heating or cooling drinks/ice packs as applicable
- We may consider reducing the number of children in attendance in order to maintain every ones safety.