

Little Treasures Nursery Litter Policy

Litter is a serious problem. It not only looks unsightly, it can be a serious risk to health as well as to the environment.

Through our curriculum, we tackle litter and its causes, effects and dangers with children. As most of our children are 2-5 years of age, we need to ensure that attitudes, good examples in practise and role models are encouraged which will stay with children into adulthood.

This is carried out in the following ways:

- Bins in the playroom and toilets.
- Bin outdoors and in a prominent place for all to use.
- Dropping of litter is greatly discouraged, and explanations given to children of why litter should not be dropped, e.g.
 1. It is unsightly
 2. It is unsafe and dangerous to plants, other children and animals: for example, a small animal could climb into a bottle but be unable to get out, or a bird may become entangled in a piece of wire or string.
 3. Dropping food can attract rats and flies, as well as cause disease. Animal fouling is a serious health risk.
- Positive praise is encouraged when children dispose of their litter carefully. Litter picking is seen as a positive environmental action, not a punishment. This encourages co-operation with others, and a sense of pride of ownership of the nursery premises.
- Staff regularly monitors the nursery grounds when the garden is in use. At no time are children encouraged to pick up broken bottles.
- Staff check grounds on a daily basis for broken glass, animal fouling and any other hazardous items.
- Children are encouraged to have ownership of their nursery, and to take pride in its appearance, and also to discourage other children and visitors from treating it unjustly by, for example, discarding litter or rubbish.

National Care Standards- A safe environment, Standard 2
Health and wellbeing, Standard 3
Engaging with children, Standard 4
A caring environment, Standard 7