



School Outings Policy

Policy Statement

Grace Park Montessori Pre-School understanding the important educational, social and emotional development that occurs through school outings and it is its policy to provide children with opportunities to participate in school outings throughout the year.

Principle

This policy is underwritten by the *Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016*.

Rationale

Grace Park Montessori pre-school service is based upon a holistic model of child development whereby all aspects of the personality of the child—social, physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual and psychological—are nurtured and encouraged to develop. Participating in extra-curricular outings beyond the familiar environment of the pre-school is an important part of the development of the child.

Standard Operating Procedures

Prior to arranging an outing, a risk/benefit assessment is carried out.

Arrangements are always in place to ensure that children are safely escorted on any outing and strict adult-child ratios are always observed on such occasions.

Information about proposed outings is given to parents or guardians are required to participate in such events.

Signed permission is obtained from parents/guardians in respect of outings.

During outings

Where the outing is to the local green areas for games or other activities, the children are introduced in smaller groups to local community personnel, where appropriate.

Garda Vetting is not required for parents who help out with pre-school outings but no parents have unsupervised access to other people's children.

To build on the learning experiences of outings, children are given an opportunity to discuss their experiences and to explore and investigate what they have experienced.

Outings are covered by the school's insurance policy and any vehicles used are also fully ensured.

Support personnel are made familiar with the pre-school's Child Protection Policy.

A member of staff with First Aid training will always be included on the outing and a First Aid box is always available to staff on outings.

Contact numbers and details for all children on the outings are taken and a mobile phone is always available in case of an emergency.

Signed by: *Jozefa Chrobak*

Directress

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| Reviewed on: | 14 January 2023 |
| Reviewed on: | |