

Hemingford Grey Playgroup

Policy: Room Temperature

March 2019

Staff are responsible for monitoring the temperature in the setting on a day to day basis.

Minimum Temperatures

The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations Act 1992 (<http://www.hse.gov.uk/contact/faqs/temperature.htm>), which applies to all workplaces, sets out requirements on minimum temperatures in workplaces. Regulation 7 requires that temperatures shall be "reasonable" and the accompanying HSC Approved Code of Practice defines this as "normally at least 16°C" (60°F) (para 43) during "the length of time people are likely to be there" (para 49).

Maximum Temperatures

There are no legally-prescribed maximum temperatures for school premises or other workplaces. The Workplace Regulations and accompanying HSC Approved Code of Practice require, however, that all reasonable steps are taken to achieve a reasonably comfortable temperature by, where necessary, special ventilation measures including provision for fans. DfES Guidance 0029/2000, *Standards for School Premises*, includes specific standards for ventilation in school buildings.

Thermometers

The Workplace Regulations also require that a sufficient number of thermometers should be available, at a convenient distance from any part of the workplace, to enable temperatures to be measured in any part of the workplace. They do not, however, require a thermometer to be provided in every room.

Procedure To Be Taken If Temperature Drops

In the event that the temperature within the children's play areas becomes cool, the Manager or Deputy will take a record of the temperatures of the playrooms. If these fall below the legal requirement of 16°C then the Manager or Deputy will ensure they take all reasonable steps to rectify the problem. The steps are as follows:

- If the heating is broken contact the committee chair and heating engineers for contractors' details as soon as the problem becomes evident
- Source portable heating appliances that are out of reach of the children and are safe for use
- Take regular checks of room temperatures and record these
- Manager or Deputy to contact member of Chair of the Management Committee explaining that they are unable to maintain temperature and are having to close the Playgroup.
- After contact with the Chairperson and where the temperature can not be raised to 16c (60F) then the Playgroup Manager or Deputy Manager will contact parents to pick their children up from Playgroup.

Procedure To Be taken In Extreme Temperature Conditions

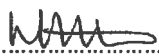
Where the temperature within the setting becomes warm the Manager or Deputy should keep records of the room temperatures. In cases of severe heat in playgroup the following steps should be taken:

- Ensure that children are wearing cool clothing
- Ensure there is adequate ventilation within the rooms, open windows and doors (when opening doors ensure they are secured safely and are not fire doors)
- Ensure that cool liquid drinks are readily available for staff and children

Where applicable source fans or air conditioning units to use within the rooms ensuring that these are safely positioned and risk assessments are conducted on them.

This policy was reviewed at a meeting of Hemingford Grey Playgroup Committee, held on ~~20th October 2015~~ 29th April 2019

Date: 29.4.19.....

Signed: .....

Review Date: March 2019