

# Poisonous Plant Matter Policy

## RATIONALE:

To ensure a system is in place to prevent children getting access to flowers, trees, shrubs or other plant matter which can be poisonous. To ensure regular checking and isolation or disposal of plants and plant matter that are identified as poisonous.

## PRACTICE:

Specialist advice about plants, seeds and bulbs both indoor and outdoor will be sought before new plants are introduced to the licensed premises.

Existing plants have been checked to ensure they are not on the poisonous plant list (attached).

Each day as part of the environment check, the outside area is inspected for poisonous weeds, seedlings and other plant matter, and such matter removed by the staff member doing the hazard checklist before setting up outside. If the staff member is unsure of the identification of new plant matter this will be isolated and identification established.

All resources for collage and other areas of play brought into the centre by staff, parents and the community are inspected. Any known poisonous matter will be disposed of immediately. The attached list is used as a Centre resource to determine this in the first instance.

Staff review the list of poisonous plants bi-annually as this policy is reviewed.

If a child is believed to have eaten something poisonous in the Centre's immediate environment or on a trip, the Poisons Centre (0800 764 766) will be contacted for help/advice. Parents will be contacted immediately.

## GUIDING DOCUMENTS: Education (Early childhood Services) Regulations 2008 46

Approved by:

Centre Director : *Hilary Henderson*

Date: June 2021

Service Provider

Contact Person: *Aaron Donaldson*

Date: June 2021

Reviewed: June 2021

To be reviewed: June 2023

2021

1 Is this policy working?

It was tested this year (2021) when the neighbours bush was hanging over the fence. The school was contacted and the problem was addressed as per policy.-Hilary

2 Does it match our practice?

3 Is it supported by research?