



Orchard House Food Play Policy

At Orchard House we ensure that any food that we use in children's play is always carefully supervised.

Before deciding on the food activity, we look at the age range of the children and any potential risks that maybe possible.

We understand that food play can provide children with a variety learning opportunities and enhance activities, but the children's safety and well-being is always the most important aspect to consider.

We do the following things to keep children safe when engaging in food play at Orchard house:

- Choking hazards are checked and avoided
- We will not use whole jelly cubes within children's play only jelly that has already been made with water.
- We only use dried pasta, pulses and cous cous with the older children and with adult supervision always.
- If we have children with allergies then food activities will be checked to ensure they cause no risk to the child, or food activities are avoided when the child is attending.
- Allergies are always visible for practitioners to see and ensure when setting up activity's children are kept safe.
- We have weekly cooking lessons, and the ingredients are checked before the lesson, based on the individual child's needs
- We will not use food in play unless it enhances the activity children's learning opportunities

- We will ensure heat treated flour will be used, where appropriate, to reduce risk of infection.

<https://www.food.gov.uk/safety-hygiene/raw-flour>

We discuss our activity plans with parents, so they are aware of the activities that their children are participating in.

11th September 2024