

Outings Policy:

Tir na nOg Preschool is committed to planning and undertaking appropriate and well –supervised outings. Outings provide an opportunity for children and adults to share in active learning experiences, which can then be used to enhance many areas of the curriculum of the childcare service. Childcare (Pre-School Services) Regulations 2006 apply.

- A risk assessment is carried out before any outing takes place. This is to ensure that where we plan on taking the children is a safe and suitable place for them.
- In line with the Childcare (Pre-School Services) Regulations 2006, operational procedures for the safe conduct of outings and arrangements are in place to ensure that the children are safely escorted on any outing.
- Prior written information about proposed outings/visitors to the service is given to the parents/guardians.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to take part in all of our outings. Because of the low child:adult ratio in place for outings we generally cannot go on outings if most of the parents/guardians are not available to come along. IPPA requirements for outings include at least one adult to every two children in the 0-6 age group. The owner/manager is not part of this adult/child ratio.
- Signed permission has to be obtained from parents/guardians for each outing. If this is not received a child cannot come on an outing.
- Children with additional needs should be taken on outings whenever possible but one to one adult supervision may be required.
- Where possible we try to introduce the children to local community businesses and activities (for example, farmers, gardai, fire fighters, etc..)
- To build on the learning experiences of our outings, the children are given the opportunity to discuss their experiences and to explore and investigate other aspects of the curriculum in relation to these events.

- Our Child Protection Policy is always taken with us on outings as personnel other than service staff are always part of the ratio on outings.
- At least one member of staff with current First Aid Training is always included on any outing.
- A First Aid Box, emergency telephone numbers, children's contact numbers, the roll book and mobile phones are always taken with us on outings.