



## Policy for Under 2's

Please note: for the purposes of this document, where reference is made to 'children,' we are mostly referring to babies and toddlers aged less than 24 months old.

### Introduction

Codicote Pre-School understands the unique requirements of children under the age of 24 months old. It is for this reason that we have written this policy so that all members of staff working with under 2's are clear on the expectations placed upon them in supporting our youngest children. The policy is also designed to inform parents of how we manage the needs of the under 2's in our care. The reason for this policy is to ensure that Codicote Pre-School works in collaboration with parents to achieve the best outcomes for their children.

### Ratios

Codicote Pre-School always meets the ratio requirements with suitably qualified members of staff as set out in section 3.40 of the EYFS Framework 2024. We ensure that there is always at least one member of staff to every 3 children and at least one member of staff holds an approved level 3 qualification and has suitable experience of working with children under two. At least half of all other staff hold an approved level 2 qualifications and have had training in the care of children.

### Baby Room

The EYFS Framework 2024 states that:

***3.66: The premises and equipment must be organised in a way that meets the needs of children. Providers must meet the following indoor space requirements where indoor activity in a building(s) forms the main part of (or is integral) to the provision: Children under two years: 3.5m<sup>2</sup> per child.***

***3.70: There should be a separate baby room for children under the age of two. However, providers must ensure that children in a baby room have contact with older children and are moved into the older age group when appropriate.***



To comply with the EYFS framework, all under two's are accommodated in the Pre-School's Baby Room. This is to ensure that they are safeguarded from the more mobile, older children in the setting. It also ensures that the children can freely access age-appropriate resources.

To ensure that babies, toddlers, and older children in the setting can interact, there is a see-through barrier at the edge of the Baby Room. This safeguards the under 2's whilst still allowing them to interact with the other children in the setting and learn from observing their play.

The Baby Room has enough space for each child to meet the 3.5m<sup>2</sup> floor space requirement of the EYFS Framework.

## Outdoor access

**The EYFS Framework 2024 states that:**

**3.68** *Providers must provide access to an outdoor play area.*

The children in the Baby Room also have their own, separate outdoor space in the garden with age-appropriate resources. This is separated from the main garden by a see-through barrier to safeguard the under 2's whilst also allowing them to see and interact with the older children in the setting. The children in the setting have outdoor play opportunities every day.

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