Physical Contact

We like to inform parents in advance of the nature and type of physical contact that their child will experience whilst in our care. No physical punishment is given to any child whilst with us as we think that discipline should be taught through reason and affection. The three main types of contact are:   
Nurturing: which includes hugs, hand holding, gentle tickling and carry cuddling, forehead or cheek kissing, this type of contact is never given unless the child feels comfortable or they express it. We will assess the child’s need to be carry cuddled and will try not to just walk around with children and promote that they engage if we feel it is avoidance. However, settling children will be given the time they need to be comfortable.  
Safety and Guidance: This includes restraining children from harmful situations, separating children who are in physical conflict, directing children by gently leading or guiding them and administering first aid to injuries. If a child needs restraining for any reason e.g. pulling back from a road an accident/incident form will be completed and will need to be signed by a parent upon collection that day. Children will generally be steered with a flat hand and never pulled or grabbed. It may on occasion be necessary to restrain a child to prevent them injuring themselves after they’ve become upset. If this happened an incident form would be completed. Please note if restraint of any kind is used this will be recorded and parents will be notified.  
Hygiene: This includes washing of hands and faces, assisting with bathroom duties (per the age and ability of the child concerned), nappy changing, examining rashes and unusual marks, nose blowing and any necessary clothing changes. We do not normally bathe children however this is occasionally necessary for the odd heel to shoulder poo incident! (this only really happens with babies and would only be undertaken by Jenny when Childminding)

All data will be held in line with GDPR regulations (please see sperate policy)