

## **Procedure For Use Of Kitchens At Child Side School**

1. Children need to be part of the daily rhythm of preparing food and being part of the ‘story’ of food (growing, shopping, cooking, managing risks in the kitchen, cleaning up)
2. Each class will have its own food preparation area to ensure that it becomes part of the children’s regular curriculum (not just fortnightly or on special occasions)
3. Time needs to be allocated daily so that adults and children can work together in regular authentic learning experiences.
4. Adults work with a small group of 3 to 4 children when in the kitchens.
5. Part of the role of the Adult in the Kitchen is to ‘Strike the right balance between protecting children from harm and allowing them the freedom to develop independence and life skills’ (refer to ‘Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation Guide’ David Ball, Tim Gill and Bernard Spiegel).  
Eg:
  - Alerting children to the hazard of a hot stove or sharp knives
  - Modelling how to cut vegetables safely with a sharp knife
  - Modelling how to put saucepans on the oven with the handles facing the wall rather than sticking out
  - Modelling how to use oven mitts to remove hot trays from the oven
  - Modelling and making very obvious how often they need to wash their hands, use colour-coded clothes for cleaning, putting rubbish in the bin, putting food scraps in the chook buckets, keeping away from hot drinks and hot ovens.
6. Health and hygiene will form integral parts of preparing and eating meals together. Children will discuss hygiene and health and have demonstrations as they work preparing meals.

Using the kitchens and helping to prepare meals is an essential life skill for all children. “Knowing about risks and how to manage them is an essential part of growing up. If children and young people are not allowed to explore and learn

through playing and taking part in positive activities, they will not learn how to judge risks and manage them for themselves.”

Staying Safe: A consultation document (DCSF, 2007b)

VERSION	DATE REVIEWED	DATE RATIFIED	CHANGES MADE	AUTHOR OF CHANGES
1	June 2011	22/6/11		LO
2	March 2014	26/3/14	Reference to Managing Risk in play provision documentation	KM