Voyage @ Flash Ley

DIETARY POLICY

Before a child is admitted to Voyage @ Flash Ley, parents are required to complete an admission form stating their child's special dietary requirements, preferences and any known allergies. Following a discussion with the child's parents or carers appropriate arrangements are made to meet their individual needs. A care plan is put in place and checked by Parents / Carers.

The dietary rules of religious groups, vegetarians or vegans will be made known to staff and will be strictly adhered to when food is provided.
Food will be offered to children on a regular basis. Fresh drinking water will be constantly available and the children will be encouraged by staff to drink on a regular basis. Milk will be offered at least once a day.

FEEDING/WEANING

First Steps @ Voyage works in partnership with parents through their child's weaning process. First Steps has a flexible approach to weaning, in order to provide continuity for individual babies. Parents are given a written 'Daily Diary' which reports on the child's milk/food intake.

A strict procedure is followed in order to ensure all bottles, utensils and feeding equipment is clean and sterile and baby's feeds are made correctly, in-line with manufacture guidelines.

The introduction of new foods is a gradual process offering a greater range of tastes and textures either by Baby Led Weaning or more traditional purees and rice. This would begin after consultation with parents and following NHS guidelines of 'around 6 months.

FOOD MANAGEMENT

In Voyage we cater for the diverse requirements of the children in our care. Cultural differences, with regard to eating habits, are respected at all times. Meals, snacks, and drinks are healthy, balanced and nutritious.

Voyage staff members are trained in storing, handling, and the preparation of food.

SNACK & MEAL TIMES

During snack and meal times children are encouraged to use their manners, engage in quiet conversations and eat at their own pace using appropriate cutlery for their age and stage of development. Children are also encouraged to eat their main

course, or finish their snack, before they are offered a dessert or second portion of fruit.

Voyage staff members promote healthy eating by being good role models, they sit with the children and, where possible, eat with them. Children are also encouraged to sample a variety of foods.

Ofsted (0300 123 1231) would be notified of any food poisoning affecting two, or more, children looked after on the premises.

	Extended Services Manager	
	Deputy Manager	
	Chair of Governors	