



Enhance
Cultural
Experiences

Healthy Mind,
Healthy Body

Enquiring
Minds

Universal
Respect and
Understanding

Resilience and
Independence

Location,
Location
Location

Early Years Outdoor Play Policy

Aim of the policy:

- For the outdoor environments to be a continuation of the indoor environment with continuous provision available for all children including those with special needs.
- For the outdoor environment to be made available daily providing a good balance between child-initiated and adult led experiences.
- To provide appropriate clothing encouraging the children to experience the outdoors in all weathers eg wellies, rain coats.
- To provide children with access to outdoors in all safe weather.
- To provide the children will opportunities to explore the natural environment and have adventures.
- To provide exciting opportunities through Forest School activities.

We aim to:

- Provide access to the outdoor environment throughout the day.
- Provide continuous provision in order to encourage independent learners in the outdoor environment.
- Provide learning experiences which enable the children; to be engaged in their playing and exploring, show motivation and create and think critically for themselves.
- Plan for a good balance between child -led and adult initiated experiences.
- Observe and record children's learning in the outdoor environment to inform future planning.
- Ensure the outdoor environment is exciting and stimulating for the children.

The staff will:

- Ensure the children wear appropriate clothing for example rain coats and wellies.
- Plan for a wide range of exciting and stimulating experiences, planning to meet all children's interests and needs.

- Encourage children to be independent learners.
- Encourage children to use the outdoor grounds to explore and investigate.
- Encourage children to use their characteristics of effective learning skills.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

This will include:

- Staff observations of children, discussions and feedback.
- Annually discussing and reviewing the validity of the policy to ensure it is meeting the needs of all children and special needs children.
- Discussion and feedback from the children.

Health and Safety (Refer to the Health and Safety Policy & Outdoor Play/ Forest School Risk Assessment)

- Site supervisor to check the grounds daily and carry out a litter pickup.
- Staff to do a visual check before the children access outdoors.
- Staff to ensure both gates are closed and locked at all times.
- Child-Adult ratio maintained.
- Risk assessments to be carried out on enhanced/ messy play provisions.

Equal Opportunities:

- All children will have access to the outdoor play curriculum regardless of gender, special educational needs, race, home or cultural background.

Reviewed; September 2025