



Outdoor Play Policy

Policy Statement

We believe that an outdoor play area provides a multi-sensory environment, which responds to individual learning styles. This form of essential learning compliments and enhances all aspects of a child's development and learning through its physical, open-ended nature.

Aims

Our aim is to create opportunities to explore outdoor environments

Procedures

1. We allow children to enjoy outdoor activity throughout the seasons.
2. We promote investigation and experimentation with a variety of natural resources.
3. The children are allowed to make discoveries using senses.
4. We encourage a child to use language to describe, explain, predict, ask questions and develop ideas.
5. We allow the development and appreciation of natural beauty and a sense of wonder.
6. We encourage a child to care for their own personal safety and the safety of others.
7. We aim for children to care for the environment of the outdoor play area and create an awareness of wider issues.
8. We try to ensure that outdoor activities permeate all curricular areas. These activities are both child and adult led.
9. Resources are provided that allow children to self-select. These resources provide stimulation and cover all aspects of the curriculum.

10. Children should be appropriately dressed for all weather conditions to allow for a more contented outdoor play time. All in one wet weather suits are provided by the Neston Pre-school Playgroup for the children. Suitable wet weather footwear should be worn when appropriate.
11. Outdoor play enables interaction between children within extended learning.
12. Staff ensure the outdoor play area is safe and secure. A regular health and safety inspection of the area is conducted along with secured gates to prevent children leaving the area and unauthorised persons from entering.
13. Appropriate shade and cover is provided to allow children refuge from some weather conditions.
14. Outdoor drinks are allowed in the outdoor play area and access is provided to toilets at all times.
15. An outdoor quiet area is available for those seeking solitude and / or peace, this can be found in the log house. In the summer, when the children spend more time outside, we have a book area.
16. We aim to promote parental awareness to the benefits of outdoor activities

This policy was formulated in consultation with staff and the Management Committee of Neston Pre-school Playgroup and was formally adopted at a committee meeting held on 16 / 5 / 2016

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee

Print Name Joanna L Aldred

Role of Signatory Joint Chair

Date to be reviewed May 2017