

RRIS Outdoor Learning Policy (Draft)

The outdoors can provide a scale and freedom for a type of play that is difficult to replicate indoors.

Curriculum Framework 3-7

Outdoor space is essential for the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development of the child.

Froebel Educational Theory & Practice

Aim

To enable all children to use the outdoor space as an integral part of their learning on a regular basis throughout the year.

Objectives

We endeavour to:

- enable all children to have opportunities to access outdoor learning experiences on a regular daily basis
- ensure that outdoor learning offers children the opportunity to explore and investigate, problem solve, use their imagination and be creative
- use the outdoors as a context and a natural resource for learning, enabling children to develop an appreciation of natural beauty and a sense of wonder about the world
- respect and look after the outdoor environment, nurture and care for living things
- support children to develop confidence at working alongside adults as well as independently and co-operatively with others
- include outdoor learning as an integral part of the planning, observation and assessment process
- give children opportunities to follow their own interests, plan and have ownership for their learning outdoors
- provide opportunities for children to discuss, review and evaluate their outdoor experiences

- ensure that children enjoy energetic activity outdoors and the feeling of well being that it brings
- enable children to manage and use the space and freedom of the outdoor area safely and to learn to take risks within the safe outdoor environment.
- use tools safely and effectively and follow school safety rules.
- provide opportunities to relax, enjoy and have fun outdoors

Method

Staff will;

- facilitate outdoor learning through planning, discussion and interaction with children and other staff
- provide, maintain and organise resources and appropriate clothing, footwear, and tools
- encourage all children to explore a variety of outdoor learning opportunities
- interact sensitively with children to support and extend their learning
- ensure outdoor learning is safe by devising a set of outdoor rules which are mutually agreed by children and adults
- record children's outdoor learning experiences (photos, quotes, pictures, writing) in learning journals and classroom displays
- share children's outdoor learning experiences and achievements with parents and carers
- monitor and evaluate outdoor learning, through observation , record keeping and discussion, identifying ways to improve future practise