Woodburn Nursery Class



Outside Play Policy

# Aims

* To provide challenging experiences for children in a safe and stimulating environment.
* To give opportunities for social, co-operative, imaginative and independent play.
* To allow children to explore and investigate their outside environment and to relate it to the wider world.
* For adults to support children in their use of their developing skills with their bodies.

# Objectives

* To provide opportunities where children can gain in confidence and self-esteem by using their bodies and exploring the space around them.
* To encourage children to play in a co-operative manner and to develop their concepts of sharing.
* To allow children space and time for solitary play and the freedom to explore their environment.
* To provide resources which allow children to develop their large and small muscle control and acquire a variety of skills through climbing, running, jumping, skipping, hopping, cycling, balancing, throwing balls, kicking balls, using bats etc.
* To encourage the investigation of mathematical, environmental and scientific concepts in the outside environment.
* To allow children to experience a variety of weather conditions and the different seasons.
* To encourage children to care for living things in their environment.
* To give opportunities for adults to observe and interact with children and to note their progress.
* For adults to share observations of outside play to enable development and extension of the outside area.
* To include learning stories from outside play to allow for planning of the outside curriculum.
* Offering risky play opportunities allows the children to grow, promoting resilience and confidence in their problem solving skills.
* It further enables them to learn about the world around them, whilst making informed decisions about their safety.
* Studies have shown that children are unlikely to be hurt through self-directed play; this is due to children understanding their own capabilities.
* Risky play supports children in testing their limits and exploring their boundaries.