



Dunnottar Nursery

Outdoor Play Policy

Children have the right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of cultural, artistic and other recreational activities. (United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child - Article 31)

Learning outdoors creates a context which encourages children and young people to make connections with the world and their learning indoors. Our children have regular access to fresh air and engage in energetic activities. They exercise choice and take increasing responsibility for their own learning. Play outdoors allows for the children to play and work independently, meet in small numbers or be part of a large group and work cooperatively.

Our outdoor play procedures:

- A member of staff conducts a risk assessment of the Nursery outdoor area before each session and notes on the window chart.
- Adult gets dressed appropriately for the weather. Staff clothing is kept in the stock cupboard.
- Children are reminded to go to the toilet before going out.
- Children are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather and independently prepare themselves. Spare clothing is available if required.
- Parents are reminded at the start of the academic year to ensure they apply sun cream and provide hats for warm weather and waterproofs for wet weather.
- If children are going outwith our own outside area then an additional risk assessment will be completed. A list of children present on the outing will be recorded. Adults take a rucksack along with any required inhalers/medications and mobile phone as appropriate.
- Before going off to play get the children to conduct their own risk assessment and discuss any changes due to weather conditions for example.
- Children help to tidy up resources.
- Children are encouraged to undress themselves and store their outdoor shoes appropriately.
- Children wash their hands when returning from outside play.

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