



Outdoor Play Policy

Baildon Village Pre-School believe that indoor and outdoor play is essential to provide the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum for children from birth to five years. To promote good physical health it is crucial that children are able to play out in all weathers, with the appropriate care taken to protect the children. Adults should be actively involved with the children in their games and activities and where appropriate, carry out written observations of children in meaningful play.

We aim to create an atmosphere where all children can learn to take risks, in a controlled environment. The children have access to manufactured equipment, alongside open ended resources, to help develop their imagination, solve problems and learn about the world around them.

The safety of the children accessing the outdoor play area is imperative; a full risk assessment is carried out and reviewed regularly. Although outdoor play is crucial, we adopt the safety and wellbeing of the children and will prioritise the outdoor play temporarily if this compromises the safety of the children.

Procedures

- Before any child accesses the outdoor area, a member of staff will complete a full daily risk assessment of the area and ensure all external gates are closed and locked. All equipment is checked and potential hazards are removed.
- The external door will be secured in an open position when children are in 'free flow', to minimise any accidents when trying to open or close the door.
- When children are independently 'free flowing' from indoors to outdoors health and safety must be considered as a priority.
- Children must be supervised at all times; a minimum of two staff will be outside at any one time.
- Should a child have an accident, a member of staff will escort the child to the outer door and alert the first aider for assistance.
- If the first aider is indoors, a member of staff will change places to allow the first aider to deal with the accident.



- Due to children accessing the need to be vigilant whereabouts at all times.
 - At the end of the outdoor plat, staff must perform a head count and check all areas before returning indoors.
 - Our fire plan includes a safe collection point known to children and staff outside church doors.
 - A varied play experience will be provided to outdoors as well as indoors.
- independently outdoor space, staff in ensuring children's

The following factors will be taken into consideration I different weather conditions;

Hot Weather

- Children will be encouraged to play outdoors; however, a risk assessment will be taken to determine if it is in the interest of the children's safety. Outdoor play may be restricted at the hottest part of the day.
- Shaded areas will be provided for children and staff.
- Water is available and children are encouraged to drink regularly.
- Children must wear sun hats and sun cream in hot weather.
- Parents are requested to ensure their child has sin cream on before they attend a session in the hot weather.
- The setting will provide sun cream for parents to apply to their own child before they leave the setting.

Wet Weather

- Parents are requested to ensure their own child dresses appropriately for the weather conditions.
- Suitable waterproof clothing, wellingtons and rain suits, are provided to enable children to experience splashing in puddles and playing in the rain and snow.

Cold Weather

- Children will be with coats, hats playing outside.



dressed appropriately and gloves before

- Pre-school has spare clothing that can be used in emergencies to ensure children access outdoor play.

Staff Ratios

- At all times staff:child ratios (indoors and outdoors) will be maintained with Ofsted guidance. Should ratios change, in the even of unforeseen incidents, the leader in charge will ensure the ratios are maintained by collecting all staff and children together, either indoors or outdoors, at the leaders discretion.