

Egerton Nursery & out of School Club

Outdoor Play Policy



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EYFS: 1.3, 3.58

Document History

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Approved by	Board of Director Trustees
Approval date	25/11/2021
Review period	1 year
Review date	16/11/2022

Version History

Version	Date	Changes
1	05/11/2020	New policy document
2	15/11/2021	No changes
3	27/10/2022	See highlighted

List of Abbreviations Used

Outdoor Play

At **Egerton Nursery and Out of School Club** we are committed to the importance of daily outdoor play and the physical development of all children regardless of their age and stage of development.

We provide outdoor play in all weathers. **(unless it is deemed unsafe).**

Where possible and appropriate, we make outdoor activities accessible to children with learning difficulties and disabilities to ensure inclusive use of the outdoor area.

We recognise the importance and that children need regular access to outdoor play in order to keep fit and healthy, develop their large and fine motor skills, experience learning in a natural environment and access sunlight in order to absorb vitamin D more effectively.

We also refer to The Chief Medical Office guidance on physical activity.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/832868/uk-chief-medical-officers-physical-activity-guidelines.pdf

The outdoor areas, both within the nursery grounds and in the local community have a wealth of experiences and resources which help children to develop in a variety of ways, including independence, exploration and investigative skills, risk taking and self-esteem, all of which support children to develop skills now and for the future.

We ensure outdoor play is adequately supervised and we have robust safety checks in place, including regular head counts.

We ensure all areas are safe and secure through close supervision and the use of robust risk assessments and safety checks.

Where possible and appropriate, we plan and encourage play that helps children understand and manage risks.

This type of play allows children to explore and find their own boundaries in a safe environment with supportive practitioners.

Staff are informed of the importance of safety procedures and are trained appropriately to ensure these procedures are followed effectively.

We obtain parental permission before any child leaves the nursery during the day. This includes short outings into the local community. There is more information in the outings policy.

We plan all outdoor play opportunities and outings to complement the indoor activities and provide children with purposeful activities that support and follow individual children's interests.

There is a balance of both adult-led and child-initiated opportunities to enable children to learn and practice new skills, knowledge and behaviours.

Where activities take place away from the setting (e.g. in the local wood) then a mobile phone and first aid kit will be taken to ensure the safety of children at all times.

A trained paediatric first aider will be present when away from the main setting.

We use this policy alongside the following policies to ensure the safety and welfare of children throughout their time outside:

- Health and Safety
- Sun Care
- Caring for Babies and Toddlers
- Lost Child Policy
- Parents and Carers as Partners
- Supervision of Children
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Outings.

This policy was adopted on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
<i>05.11.2020</i>		<i>November 2022</i>