

## Outdoor Play NMS 7.4 22.16 23.5 23.7

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. 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 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.

The outdoor areas, include playing fields behind the setting, a small play area, community garden and community allotment area. These areas enable children and young people to develop in a variety of ways, including independence, exploration and investigative skills, risk taking and self-esteem, all of which support with improving development skills now and for the future.

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 and young people understand and manage risks.. This type of play allows children to explore and find their own boundaries in a safe environment with supportive play workers. 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 or young person leaves the setting for short outings or day trips. There is more information in the visits and outings policy.

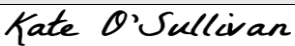

Where activities take place away from the setting (e.g. in the playing fields) then a mobile phone and first aid kit will be taken to ensure the safety of children and young people at all times. A trained paediatric first aider will be present when away from the main setting.

We are commissioned to deliver Open Access Play and therefore follow the terms and conditions set out by the commissioning body for those sessions.

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

- Health and safety
- Sun care
- Lost child policy
- Parents and carers as partners
- Supervision of children
- Safeguarding children
- Outings.

This policy was adopted on 13.10.2025 and will be reviewed on or before 13.10.2026

Name and Position	Signed	Date
Kate O'Sullivan Community Association Manager		13.10.2025
Olive Frances Vice Chair of Trustees		13.10.2025