



Hail Weston Pre-School, The Village Hall, High Street, Hail Weston, Cambs. PE19 5JS, Tel: 01480 214574

Outdoor Learning Policy

Policy statement

Hail Weston Pre-School Activity Group (HWPAG) believe that it is important for the children in our setting to have the opportunity to experience the outdoors. Active learning experiences outdoors are essential for young children. They give children opportunities to practice their developing skills, make them feel good and to explore their world. It is also important for children's physical, mental and emotional development. We believe that children should begin to take risks and face challenges outdoors.

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) fully supports playing outdoors.

Aim

We aim to make the children's experience outdoors a happy, safe and healthy one.

Method

The outdoor area will be resourced and available for the children to access on a daily basis. Children will need to have appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather in order to enable them to fully access the activities outside.

We believe that access to the outdoor area is beneficial to the health and wellbeing of young children. As a consequence we do not want to restrict a child's choice to play and learn outdoors.

Whenever children are using the outdoor area we will ensure it is appropriately staffed using the same ratios of adults to children as apply indoors.

Staff will make observations to inform future planning when working with children in the outdoor area.

Staff will also endeavour to adhere to the following:

- Our outdoor area is securely fenced.
- Our outdoor area is checked for safety and cleared of rubbish/hazards before it is used.
- Wooden people form a barrier between the playground and low wooden exterior gate.
- Parents are advised that children need to wear appropriate clothing.
- Supplies of spare hats and caps are kept by the Pre School and used when needed.
- Sun protection - see Sun policy attached.
- Adults and children are alerted to the dangers of poisonous plants.
- Where water can form a pool on equipment, it is emptied before children start to play outside unless specifically for a water activity.
- Our outdoor sand pit is stored indoors overnight.
- All outdoor activities are supervised at all times following government guidelines for staff and child ratios.

This policy was adopted at a committee meeting of HAIL WESTON PRE-SCHOOL ACTIVITY GROUP held on January 2020

Date to be reviewed: January 2021

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:.

Lizzie Spear

Signatory:.....

Role of signatory: Chairperson