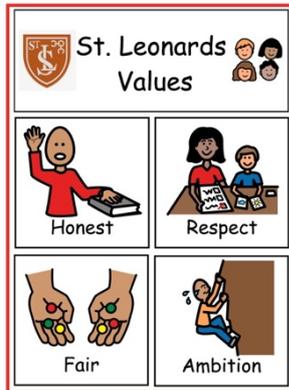




Purposeful Play at St Leonard's Primary

Inspire, believe, together we achieve.



As part of our School Improvement Priorities, staff at St Leonard's have been developing the concept of learning through play across whole school.

At St Leonard's, we strive for all our children to show...

- Honesty
- Respect
- Fairness
- Ambition

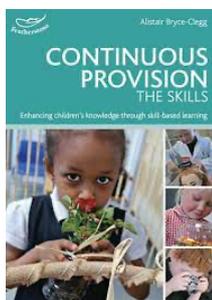
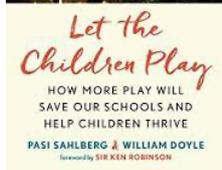
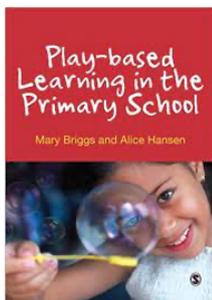
From our research it was clear that play had a positive link to our school values as it provides an environment where our children can feel safe and secure, play promotes collaboration and pace and challenge – in turn linking to honesty, respect, fairness, and ambition. Through a variety of high-quality play experiences children are provided with the opportunity to develop each of these values.

Why Play?

The Scottish Government have been promoting the importance of play in the recent years with great focus on child led learning.

Play Strategy for Scotland was developed in 2013.

Throughout this document there is a huge focus on early years, however research is increasingly supporting and providing evidence to support play in the upper years. We strive for our children to become successful, confident, effective contributors and responsible citizens and through purposeful play children are given the opportunity to develop these skills. Realising Ambition (2020) states that *“Play is an intrinsic part of human nature and development – it allows children to develop social, emotional, and physical skills.”*



Our Research

Staff at St Leonard's have been working together to ensure that we meet the needs of your child.

We have used a range of research to support our practise – from Government documents to educational readings.

Through our research, we have found that through high-quality play, children can develop social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills. As well as this, it has also been proven that play can help reduce the impact of trauma and reduce stress in children.



Rights Respecting School

We must remember that children not only have the right to learn but also have the right to relax and play.

Research shows that high-quality play can help develop self-awareness, management of feelings, motivation, empathy, and social skills. Play also provides a perfect opportunity to link skills to learning, life and work.

Skill Developed in Purposeful Play

At St Leonard's we have organised our play into different areas and within each area, your child will have the opportunity to develop multiple skills listed below:

- Motor Skills
- Resilience
- Curiosity
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Problem-solving
- Creativity



Your child will be given the opportunity to reflect on the skills they have been developing throughout Purposeful Play to give them the chance to make connections to their previous learning.

Leo's Learning Zones

Your child will access purposeful play through Leo's Learning Zones. We felt it was important to recognise the learning in these areas.

With their teacher, your child will explore a range of learning through play in these zones. It will provide your child the opportunities to develop, explore and consolidate their learning.

Each zone has a weekly challenge activity that your child's teacher will set, which will allow your child to experience pace and challenge in their learning and play. Leo's Learning Zones are being displayed throughout the whole school (including nursery) to ensure consistency for your child.

Leo's Learning Zone
Maths and Numeracy

In this zone, I will develop these skills...

- Collaboration
- Communication
- Problem solving
- Resilience
- Curiosity

Weekly Challenge

We, at St Leonard's, hope that you will help us to support your child's learning journey through Purposeful Play.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email us at stleonardsps.enquiries@fife.gov.uk.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information.