



# Outdoor Learning Position Statement





# Introduction



In St Patrick's Primary, our children are provided with various outdoor learning opportunities in our school grounds and local community.

Outdoor learning helps to encourage children to learn how to enjoy the places they live, and develop skills such as creativity, enquiry, critical thinking and reflection. By providing children with opportunities to learn outdoors, they naturally form strong bonds with their environment and how to care for it.

COP 26 helped to raise awareness and enthusiasm for supporting and maintaining our community in a sustainable way and it is our passion to ensure that this continues with our children year after year.

“Almost every initiative or development can be enhanced by the contribution of taking learning outdoors”

Building your curriculum: outside and in, Scottish Government

# Rational



At St Patrick's, we facilitate outdoor experiences which help our children engage in physical activities and encourage them to develop positive habits with maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Learning outdoors can be a far more positive experience as it helps to reduce feelings of stress and provides children with problem solving strategies which allow them to think creatively; some children struggle to do this easily in their classroom environment, and so taking the learning outdoors helps to increase their self confidence in tackling tasks independently.

Most of all, it is fun! Where fun is to be had, learning follows, as our children are less inhibited to communicate to one another their thoughts and ideas; allowing them to develop important social skills which they will take with them throughout their lives.



# Aims



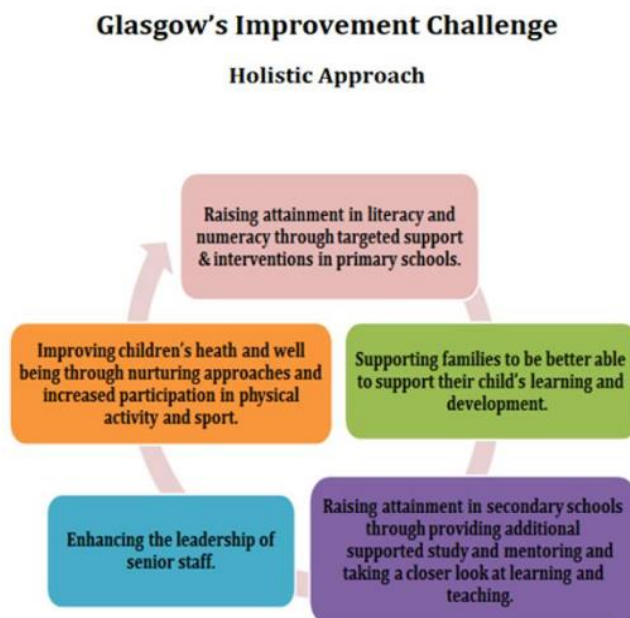
- Raise attainment and achievement for all across the four contexts for learning.
- Enhance the skills and leadership of learning in our children, teachers and families
- Promote and improve health and wellbeing of all learners
- Build valuable lifelong skills such as communication, problem solving, information technology, working with others and thinking skills
- Enable children to make cross curricular links through learning experience and apply this independently

Curriculum for Excellence Through Outdoor Learning – “All staff at every level of involvement with the education of children and young people have a responsibility to make the most of the outdoor environment to support the delivery of the experiences and outcomes of Curriculum for Excellence.”

# Resources and Links




Within the Glasgow Improvement Challenge tile found on Glow, there are an abundance of lesson plans and resources within the Literacy for All and Glasgow Counts tiles. Our staff regularly uses these as a guide when planning well thought out and meaningful opportunities for our children.




**GLASGOW OUTDOORS**

A range of practical learning opportunities linked to the frameworks and designed to enhance literacy and numeracy.

CLOL launch webinar  
Monday, 24th August 15:30



**LITERACY**



**NUMERACY**



Glasgow Counts Outdoors:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/gc/public/gccleadersofearlylearning/uploads/sites/7271/2020/11/19130246/Updated-Glasgow-Outdoors-Glasgow-Counts-pdf.pdf>

Scottish Book Trust - Books for outdoor learning:

<https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/book-lists/outdoor-learning?gclid=CjwKCAjwolqhBhAGEiwArXT7KyKXsjBURvzN0oWS6xcP4HuaH93Dab9wROOnBd8cf10yw6sf0zglvBoCe-gQAvD BwE>

Sir John Muir Trust:

<https://www.johnmuirtrust.org/john-muir-award?gclid=CjwKCAjwolqhBhAGEiwArXT7K6DQ8ITk28hzxQAyuYNI2K1EMwEFuvaeG02G0b229sx7PTfXFaLM0hoCf cQAvD BwE>

Learning Through Landscapes:

<https://ltl.org.uk/free-resources/>

The Woodland Trust Outdoor Learning Pack:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/43645/outdoor-learning-resource-pack.pdf>



# References

- Scotland's Outdoor Play & Learning Coalition Position Statement, Play Scotland 2023
- Building the Curriculum: outside and in, Scottish Government
- Curriculum for Excellence Through Outdoor Learning