

New Monkland Nursery Class



Getting it Right for Every Child Outdoor Play Policy



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New Monkland Nursery Class

Aim

At New Monkland Nursery we aim to provide children with opportunities for outdoor play which promotes the development of confidence, co-ordination, well-being and strength.

Objectives

- To provide a safe and supportive outdoor environment which encourages children to participate in physical activities providing adventure, personal challenge and enjoyment.
- To promote social skills such as sharing, turn taking, decision making, problem solving, negotiation and fairness.
- To offer children free flow outdoor play on a daily basis.
- To provide an enriching environment to promote curiosity, investigation, exploration and risk awareness.

Effective practice includes consideration of:

- Safety and security – fire exit, fire drill, Lanyard containing keys for side gates, daily risk assessment, maintenance of resources, promotion of fair/safe play.
- Resources – stimulating/open ended resources.
- Storage – Suitable for children to select and return resources.
- Staffing – A keyworker will be responsible for the outdoor area, staff deployment requires all staff to ensure that children needs are met and staff are flexible in supporting all areas including the outdoor space.
- If only one member of staff present in the garden, they will position themselves in order to see the whole garden.

Safety and Security

- A member of nursery staff will carry out a risk assessment each morning prior to outdoor play. He/she will wear the lanyard with the keys for the gates).
- A Daily Risk Assessment Sheet will be completed, and any defects/hazards will be reported to Lead who will report to the Facility Officer and SMT.

Clothing and Protection

- Each child/staff member will be provided with suitable clothing for all weathers.
- Sun hats are provided when necessary.
- Parents/guardians are advised to apply sunscreen to their child before attending nursery.
- Staff can provide sunscreen (with prior agreement with parent/guardian) and encourage children to help apply it.

Staffing

- Staff will be mindful of deployment to meet children's needs while endeavouring to keep ratio's where possible.
- Nursery team to be clear about issues of safety and supervision.
- Adult responsible for outdoor/indoor areas must be a qualified member of the team.
- College students on nursery placement cannot be left in charge and must work under the supervision of a qualified staff member.
- Responsibility for carrying out the daily safety checks lies with the member/s of staff going outdoors.
- Children must not access the outdoor area until the nursery team know that it is hazard free.
- The children will help staff to set out and tidy away equipment and resources safely.
- Staff will encourage children to become independent in dressing/removing outdoor clothing.
- Staff will ensure that all outdoor clothing is clean and altered when necessary.

UNCRC Links

Article 3: All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

Article 11: You have the right to be protected from kidnapping.

Article 27: You have the right to food, clothing, a safe place to live and to have your basic needs met. You should not be disadvantaged so that you can't do many of the things other kids can do.

Article 29: Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

Article 31: You have the right to play and rest