

Our Commitment to Play

At Newton Primary School, our team recognise the importance of all children having sufficient time and space to play freely as part of their day.

To children, playing is one of the most important aspects of their lives. Play has been described by Froebel as 'the work of childhood.' Our staff fully uphold these values, understanding the cross curricular nature of play; **to play is to learn.**



The Importance of Environment

Our team aim to make a positive contribution to children's lives by providing a wide and engaging range of play opportunities both indoors and outdoors throughout the school day. We carefully plan our environment and the resources within in, in consultation with the children. The outdoor environment offers the toolbox of nature - sticks, mud, leaves - to extend children's learning in creative, challenging and open-ended ways.

We recognise that children need a degree of risk, challenge and adventure in order to grow and develop. Our staff work alongside children in these situations to assess risk, build confidence and develop lifelong learning skills.



PLAY
is the highest form
of research.
- ALBERT EINSTEIN



Play in P1 at
Newton Primary
School



What does a P1 day look like at Newton?

At Newton we aim to provide a smooth transition through the Early Level Curriculum between Nursery and P1. The children, their health and wellbeing, their interests and their engagement are always at the heart of our planning.

There are short structured intervals throughout the day where teachers work with small groups on specific numeracy and literacy input and these are followed up with free flowing opportunities to expand this learning through exploration and play in real life contexts.

Interdisciplinary learning is woven throughout the day and there are opportunities for children to engage in activities they choose. There are also quiet areas should children just wish to curl up and look at a book, or snuggle in and rest for a while!

Stay & Play Feedback from Parents February 2020

"Brilliant! Great to see how much they can learn through play! Thank you for organising!"

"A great chance to experience the open area; the change in learning to be more play-based is great. This approach is great".

"Fantastic to see the children doing what children do best. So much learning going on and a great way for children to socialise, build confidence and work things out."

"It is lovely to see the children so happy and busy and relaxed in the school environment. Really great to see the classroom and learning in action."