



Policy for Outdoor Education in Early Years Foundation Stage Jan 2021



Rationale

At Greenhill Academy we aim to ensure that all children receive high quality outdoor provision which is multi-sensory and engaging, provides first-hand experiences and develops confident, independent learners. The outdoor education all children receive at Greenhill is broad, balanced and inclusive; it builds on the experiences they bring with them and relates new learning directly to their life.

At the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage we aim to have developed children who are confident to make positive relationships with their peers, able to communicate their own interests, wants and needs clearly to others, enthusiastic, independent and inquisitive learners who ask questions and want to find out more about the world around them.

This policy sets out the criteria for teaching outdoors in the Foundation Stage and should be used in conjunction with the policy for Teaching and Learning.

Purpose

- To ensure that all our children achieve their potential.
- To ensure children have access to a widening range of quality provision outdoors.
- To engage children in a broadening range of learning experiences outdoors.
- To ensure children are supported by adults who are knowledgeable and skilful in developing and extending children's ideas outdoors.
- For children to take pride and ownership of the outdoor environment and resources.

Teachers will:

- Provide children with access to a well-planned and well organised space outdoors.
- Plan worthwhile experiences that are well matched to children's interests and the ways that they learn.
- Plan for effective learning.
- Introduce the continuous provision, introducing new stimuli or new key words.
- Give direction and instruction, demonstrating skills.
- Model language and behaviour.
- Record children's ideas and document their learning.
- Demonstrate their conviction that daily outdoor provision offers crucial all-round development and learning experiences for children.
- Be supportive of everyone in the team, communicating enthusiasm and commitment to outdoor play.
- Seek to engage parents in their children's outdoor learning, helping them to appreciate the benefits.
- Reflect and evaluate.

“Knowledgeable and enthusiastic adults are crucial to unlocking the potential of outdoors”

Visions and Values Partnership 2004
Shared Vision and Values for Outdoor Provision

Conclusion

Outdoor learning is a crucial part of the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result of this policy children will have access to a broad range of play-based experiences to support their learning and development. Children will become confident, independent and enthusiastic learners who can start to apply their acquired skills to learning throughout their life.

