



Statement of Intent and implementation for Outdoor Learning

Curriculum

We have identified 5 Golden Threads that weave through our curriculum and underpin everything we do.

Values: “Our children will be good citizens and have a sense of belonging”

Knowledge and skills-based: “Are curious, aspirational and knowledgeable”

Progression led: “Our children will Do more, know more and remember more”

Language and vocabulary rich: “Are good communicators both orally and in writing”

Experience rich: “Are interested and interesting”

Outdoor Learning Intent

The intent of our Outdoor Learning curriculum is to inspire individuals of all ages through positive outdoor experiences. Our Outdoor learning encompasses opportunities for gardening and forest school activities. Both activities seek to provide our children with the opportunity to develop an inquisitive and positive relationship with the natural world based around our school values. Their experiences help them to increase confidence in decision making, make choices in their play and negotiate with each other, all of which aids their development along with a deeper respect and understanding for each other and their environment. The outdoor experiences provide a relaxed and well-paced learning environment to benefit well-being whilst helping to develop self-esteem and the ability to concentrate.

We intend to teach key life skills through our Outdoor Learning curriculum such as how to grow food from seeds, cooking, recycling, caring for the environment and problem solving. We believe that these skills will help prepare them to be 21st century citizens who can make a positive contribution and live a sustainable lifestyle.

Outdoor learning Implementation

Knowledge and skills led implementation.

All children throughout the schools take part in 1 hour of active learning each week. The curriculum is designed to ensure that over the course of the year children experience both forest school and outdoor learning activities. The knowledge and skills taught in each term have been planned to ensure the best possible learning opportunities that each season provides.

The schools value of the month is made a key feature of every Outdoor learning session in order for children to see how it applies in a real life context.

Where possible, links are made with other curriculum areas. For example, learning to cook outdoors to imagine what life was like in Neolithic Britain or Designing and making Pizzas in DT using vegetables grown in the garden and cooking them on our outdoor pizza oven

Progression led implementation

The outdoor learning curriculum is planned progressively to ensure that skills build over time as children move throughout the school.

Language and vocab rich implementation

In line with our whole school focus on vocabulary, practitioners plan opportunities in every session to use specific technical language in sessions and teach children to use this to communicate what they have learnt.

Experience rich implementation

The very nature of outdoor learning is experiential and enable pupils to demonstrate and apply the knowledge and skills being taught in a very practical way.

Assessment of outdoor learning

Practitioners observe children within the session and use the intended aims of each session to assess how well children have met these. Assessment is used to inform future sessions.