

NORTHWICK PARK PRIMARY AND NURSERY ACADEMY

THE OUTSIDE PLAY POLICY

“All children need opportunities to play so they may develop, grow and learn as individuals and as part of society. Play is intrinsic to the social, emotional and academic development of every person, and a method by which children develop their sporting and ‘creative’ talents”.

At Northwick Park Primary and Nursery Academy, we believe the outside classroom is a fundamental part of the learning process. It is important to recognise the value of positive play experiences and to enable our children to have free access to play facilities encompassing all areas of the school curriculum.

There are two key points to be considered when considering the nature of play development outside.

1. Through free play opportunities the children will be able to explore the world and their relationship with it. They will respond to challenges which they encounter and learn and develop as an individual.
2. Through the provision of appropriate human and physical resources, adults can intervene and enhance opportunities to:
 - Work individually, as part of a group or as a whole class depending on the nature of the class
 - Develop all gross motor skills by climbing, balancing, running, rolling, sliding and riding wheeled equipment.
 - Develop all fine motor skills by using a variety of medium including sand and water
 - Develop social, emotional and personal skills and become aware of the feelings of other children.

It is our policy that all foundation stage children will have free access to outside play facilities during the course of the school day.

In Key Stage 1 and 2 the entitlement, location and focus of outside play during directed teaching time will vary depending on the requirements of the curriculum and children.