

HARPOLE DAY NURSERY

Outdoor Play Policy

Aim

To enable children to use the nursery garden and wider outdoors as a context for learning throughout the year.

Objectives

We aim to:

- use the garden as a context and a natural resource for learning
- include the garden when planning for learning
- enable children to access the garden on a daily basis
- ensure that the garden offers children the opportunity to investigate and explore, problem solve, use their imagination and creativity
- ensure the outdoors offers children opportunities to develop their large motor skills
- ensure that children enjoy energetic activity outdoors and the feeling of wellbeing that it brings
- observe and assess and record the learning that happens in the garden
- give children opportunity to plan and have ownership for their learning in the garden
- help children to care for the outside environment through the context of the garden
- enable children to work on their own and with others
- enable children to develop an appreciation of natural beauty and a sense of wonder about the world
- respect the outdoor environment and to care for living things
- enable children to manage and use the space and freedom afforded by the garden
- give children the opportunity to be relax, enjoy and have fun outdoors
- use tools safely and effectively and to follow nursery safety rules.

Method

The staff will:

- facilitate access to the garden or walk around the village on a daily basis through discussion and staff meetings, planning and mutual agreement
- organise and provide necessary resources as appropriate, for example clothing, footwear, tools, etc.
- encourage children to use a variety of natural resources
- devise a set of 'rules for tools' through discussion with children.
- spend at least 50% of the day outside where practical.

See also our Sun Protection Policy