



Outdoor learning policy

Our outdoor learning policy aims to foster children's love of learning. We believe that all children have the right to experience the unique opportunities that come with learning outdoors. We further believe that it is important to enable children to learn to love our environment and know how to work harmoniously with it.

What do we mean by Outdoor Learning?

Outdoor Learning is a broad term that includes: outdoor provision, school grounds projects, environmental education, recreational and adventure activities, personal and social development, and more.

Direct experience outdoors is powerful, motivating and has impact and credibility. The results from outdoor learning can be instantaneous as well as active and therefore impact on behaviour as well as tapping into the learning styles of the more kinaesthetic learner.

Outdoor Learning can help to bring learning alive. For that reason the outdoors can have an impact on areas of the curriculum as diverse as imaginative writing and personal and social development.

At Loscoe C of E School, each year we base our outdoor learning around 5 main skills. The skills are:

- Attaching
- Cutting
- Cooking
- Staying safe
- Gardening

In the final term of the year, each class completes a class project using all the skills they have learnt throughout the year.

Benefits of Outdoor Learning

- Outdoor learning helps to ensure that all children are successful learners.
- Outdoor learning enables children to be confident individuals.
- Outdoor learning contributes towards the promotion and children's understanding of the importance of developing a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.
- Outdoor learning has a positive impact upon children's personal and social development.
- There is clear evidence that boys in particular are more active in their learning in an outdoor environment.

Health and Safety

We will support children in taking risks within a safe and secure environment. Pupils will be taught to manage risks. It is important to ensure that the outdoor environment offers challenges and teaches the children how to be safe and aware of others. Outdoor learning opportunities will be grasped when available and teachers will assess risk.

Monitoring of teaching and learning

Formative assessment of the children's learning will take place throughout our outdoor learning sessions, and the sessions adapted accordingly. Child will be expected to take part in learning at an age appropriate level. As always children will be supported and challenged as necessary.