

SAFFRON WALDEN NURSERY SCHOOL
OUTDOOR PLAY POLICY

At Saffron Walden Nursery School we ensure that we use the garden as a context for learning throughout the year. The outdoors is able to provide a scale and freedom for a type of play that is difficult to replicate indoors.

We aim to:

- Use the garden as a context and a natural resource for learning.
- Include the garden when planning for learning.
- Enable the children to access the garden on a regular basis.
- Ensure that the outdoors offers the children the opportunity to investigate and explore, problem solve, use their imagination and their creativity.
- Ensure the outdoors offers children opportunities to develop their large motor skills
- Ensure that children enjoy energetic activity outdoors and the feeling of well being that it brings.
- Observe, assess and record the learning that happens 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 for natural beauty.
- Respect the outdoor environment and care for living things.
- Enable children to manage and use the space and freedom afforded by the garden.
- Give children the opportunity to relax, enjoy and have fun outdoors.
- Use tools safely and effectively.
- Ensure that children access the outdoor area regardless of weather conditions.

The practitioners will:

- Facilitate access to the garden on a free-flow basis through discussion and staff meetings, planning and mutual agreement.
- Organise and provide necessary resources as appropriate.
- Encourage children to use a variety of natural resources.
- Monitor and evaluate through practitioner's observations, discussions and feedback from both children and parents/carers.
- Have a limited supply of appropriate outdoor clothing, enabling all children to access the outdoors.
- Requested to supply sun cream, when appropriate.

This policy was adopted at a meeting of Saffron Walden Nursery School on
Signed on behalf of the Management Committee by

Reviewed on
Signed on behalf of the Management Committee by