



OUTDOOR PLAY

EYFS: 3.58

At Salisbury Day Care we are committed to the importance of daily outdoor play and the physical development of all children regardless of their age and stage of development. Our outdoor provision aims to mirror the areas of learning within the setting and be an extension and enhancement of these learning opportunities. There is a balance of both adult-led and child-initiated opportunities to enable children to learn and practice new skills, knowledge and behaviours.

We have access to our outdoor area all day and provide outdoor play in all weathers. We recognise that children need regular access to outdoor play in order to keep fit and healthy, develop their large and fine motor skills, experience learning in a natural environment and access sunlight in order to absorb vitamin D more effectively.

Parents will be asked annually to sign a local visits consent form which will enable the setting to arrange regular outdoor visits in the community. There is more information in the outings policy. The outdoor areas within the local community have a wealth of experiences and resources which help children to develop in a variety of ways, including independence, exploration and investigative skills, risk taking and self-esteem, all of which support children to develop skills now and for the future.

Where possible and appropriate, we make outdoor activities accessible to children with learning difficulties and disabilities to ensure inclusive use of the outdoor areas. We ensure all areas are safe and secure through close supervision and the use of robust risk assessments and safety checks. Where possible and appropriate, we plan and encourage play that helps children understand and manage risks. This type of play allows children to explore and find their own boundaries in a safe environment with supportive practitioners. Staff are informed of the importance of safety procedures and are trained appropriately to ensure these procedures are followed effectively.

We use this policy alongside the following policies to ensure the safety and welfare of children throughout their time outside:

- Health and safety
- Sun care
- Caring for babies and toddlers
- Lost child policy
- Parents and carers as partners
- Supervision of children
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Outings.

This policy was adopted on	Date reviewed	Date for review
<i>1st September 2015</i>	December 2016	<i>3rd January 2018</i>