

The importance of play

We understand that play is really important for the future wellbeing and success of our young people. It sets good strong foundations at an early stage in their lives, often before they can talk.

The Dorset Education Board recently received a presentation from Caroline Essame, of Createcatt, who outlined how play can support better learning. Although benefitting all children, it also supports learning for young people who have special educational needs and disabilities or who have social, emotional or mental health needs.

Caroline said that play is 'how children explore and make sense of their world. It allows them to construct relationships with other people, with their surrounding and between ideas and concepts. It is their research that allows them to develop and practice the skills that they will use confidently in later life.'

The World Economic Forum identified 10 skills that employers will want during this decade and these can be matched across to the skills that children develop through play, as displayed on Createcatt's poster.

At Pimperne Primary, we encourage play and playfulness, to support the aptitudes that we encourage in the personal development of our children.

