



Wrap Around Care
St. Andrew's C.E. Primary School



'Learning together, we achieve great things'

Play Policy

Our Vision

At St Andrew's CE Primary School, we aim to bring children to a place where they can realise their full potential. Our Christian values are the foundation of all we do and each one is a facet of the central value, love, which 'always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.' (1 Corinthians 13:7)

This Policy reflects St. Andrew's Church of England Primary School's Christian ethos and mission statement. It was written with our Christian values of Creativity and Friendship in mind.

All children are entitled to play; it is intrinsic to their quality of life and an important part of how they learn and enjoy themselves.

According to the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2014)*, "Play is essential for children's development building their confidence as they learn to explore to think about problems and relate to others. Children learn by leading their own play and by taking part in play which is guided by adults."

At St. Andrew's Wrap Around Care Club we recognise the importance of play to a child's development and follow the Playwork Principles. As play workers we support and facilitate play, and do not seek to control or direct it. We will never force children to participate in play, but allow children to initiate and direct the experience for themselves.

Facilitating play

We support and facilitate play by:

- Providing an environment which is safe and suitable for playing in.
- Setting up the Club so that activities are ready before the children arrive.
- Providing a range of equipment, resources and activities on a daily basis, and keeping a record of these to ensure that varied play opportunities are offered
- Encouraging children to request additional or alternative equipment as they choose, and if a request has to be refused, explaining why.
- Not expecting children to be occupied at all times.
- Making outdoor play available every day, unless the weather is particularly bad.
- Involving children in planning activities, to reflect their own interests and ideas.
- Planning activities that enable children to develop their natural curiosity and imagination.
- Allowing children freedom of creative expression, particularly in artistic or creative play.
- Intervening in play only when necessary: to reduce risks of accident or injury, or to encourage appropriate social skills.
- Warning children in advance when an activity or game is due to end.

Play areas and equipment

- All indoor and outdoor play areas are checked and risk assessed daily before the children arrive in accordance with our **Risk Assessment** policy.
- The Club keeps an inventory of resources and equipment, which is updated regularly and reviewed to identify where any additional resources are required.
- Children are involved in selecting additional equipment and resources for use at the Club.
- The resources used at the Club promote positive images of different ethnic backgrounds, religions, and abilities, in line with our **Equal Opportunities** policy.
- The Club has a selection of fiction and non-fiction books, suitable for all age ranges.

This policy was adopted by: St Andrew's Governing Body	Date: November 2023
To be reviewed: November 2024	Signed:

Written in accordance with the *Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2014): Areas of Learning and Development [1.8]; Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Safety and Suitability of Premises, Environment and Equipment [3.64]*