

Outdoor Learning

Roald Dahl once said, “The more risks you allow children to take, the better they learn to take care of themselves.” Conversely, we can challenge ourselves, take risks, seek to discover more than we know and enjoy those “brave new worlds”. Over the last year, as a nation, we have had to adjust to the many differences in our lifestyle. The outdoors is what we all looked to, to feel free and try to regain some normality in our lives. As a school, we want to incorporate all these feelings that the outdoor brings: creativity, risk-taking, initiative and most important, freedom to express ourselves.

Outdoor-learning experiences offer a great deal in terms of these benefits. By committing to learning both inside and outside the classroom, schools are able to teach children that learning occurs everywhere, at all times. They understand better what learning means, often assuming it is something that only occurs when a book is open and a pen is in a hand.

- develop reflective and inquisitive thinking along with problem-solving approaches in ‘real’ situations
- develop resilience and adaptability in occasionally adverse circumstances
- develop a love, appreciation and respect for nature and all that is living
- develop an understanding of how we can look after our environment
- develop self-awareness, confidence and self-esteem
- develop collaborative-working and communication skills
- provide positive health benefits – both physically and mentally – and assist gross and fine-motor development

