



Risky and Adventurous Play Policy

This Policy document relates to the operation of:
GBNFC Group

Grendon & Billesley Nursery at Grendon Rd, B14 4RB
GBNFC Group at the Chinnbrook Centre B13 OET
GBNFC Children's Centre - based at the Chinnbrook Centre
Hollywood Pre-school Daycare - based at Hollywood J & I School B14 4TG

Date Agreed by the Management Board: July 2019

Review: July 2020

Signature: 

At the GBNFC group we understand that children need and want to take risks when they play. Play provision aims to respond to these needs and wishes by offering children a stimulating, challenging environment for exploring and developing their abilities. In doing this, play provision aims to manage the level of risk so that children are not exposed to unacceptable risks of death or serious injury. We fully promote children to take risks, safely and under close supervision. Our staff members are trained in promoting learning through Curiosity, Awe and Wonder.

The Curiosity approach provides children with a huge list of benefits in their play as they use a range of breakables such as; crockery, glass and objects of interest from home. The benefits help children to develop understanding of consequences, risk taking, gross and fine motor skills, imagination, life skills, creativity and awareness of own safety. Children learn to understand that care and attention is required when handling these beautiful authentic resources.

However there is an element of risk and potential hazards when using breakables. Therefore, our children are supervised and practitioners model safe use and explain to children that items will break and if broken, to step back and not touch pieces. Adults will swiftly fetch a dustpan and brush and sweep up any broken crockery or glass and clean the areas thoroughly.

Risky play gives children the opportunity to extend their limits and learn life skills. Success and failure provide children with the motivation to try again and master new challenges. Feelings associated with risky play such as fun, enjoyment, excitement, thrill, pride, and achievement are reasons children often give for engaging in risky play. It promotes good physical and mental health and helps children understand how to stay safe.

All parents are informed that the provision GBNFC group allows risky play opportunities. Staff members explain to parents why they offer risky play and reassure parents that the purpose of risky play is not to put their child at risk, it is an important factor in their development.



We visit forest and nature schools frequently and these venues are specifically identified for their inclusion of outdoor risky play. These outdoor activities are presented as idealised venues to investigate and understand the necessary balance of risk-taking and safety in child development. Forest and nature school is an environment in which risk of injury is inherent yet minimal and provides children the opportunity for exploration of their capacity and curiosity through outdoor risky play.

Risk assessments are carried out on all new risks introduced, and all equipment is checked before use.

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