

Playground Policy



“Learning to make the world a better place”

Reviewed	Spring 2016
Next Review	Spring 2017

Aims and Objectives

Playgrounds are a great opportunity for children to play, learn and develop their imagination and social skills. Playgrounds can become hectic and busy and it is our aim that our playground is well organised and everyone feels happy and safe in the playground. We want all the children to be able to enjoy their relaxation and recreation time.

At St John's Angell Town Primary School (SJAT):

- Each child socializes at play time
- Each child is happy and safe during play time
- Each child exercises during play time

Playground Behaviour

All children must follow the school rules during play time and take responsibility for their own safety and the safety of those around them. Just as in school, children should follow instructions the first time. When they hear the whistle they should freeze and put their hands in the air and put equipment down. All children should follow the direction of staff and play leaders to make sure that the equipment is cared for and used appropriately.

If a child fails to follow the school rules, children will be asked to sit by the wall for 5 minutes to reflect on their behaviour and the reasons why they are having to miss their play time. When the time is finished, they must speak to the adult who dealt with the incident and take steps to resolve the issue.

If children are having relationship problems with their peers children know that they should express this to an adult or a peer mediator or play leader.

Positive behaviour in the playground to be celebrated by certificates during Friday Achievement assembly.

Access to fresh drinking water and toilets

Toilets are open for children to use with direct access from the playground and near by are water fountains. Children are able to use these facilities at any point during their play time and there is a reminder 5 minutes before the end of playtime about this.

Play leaders: positive role models and appropriate socializing

The play leaders are responsible for making sure all the children are playing appropriately and positively together. If children are not engaging in an activity play leaders can redirect children to an alternative activity. Play leaders also show children how to use the equipment appropriately and demonstrate games and activities. They provide support and

encouragement for children who may otherwise feel lonely, vulnerable or upset in the playground.

Playground zones

The playground has specific zones for different activities. There is a staff timetable which assigns staff to a particular activity or group of activities. Staff are responsible for resourcing and supervising activities in their zones and to ensure that children are included and feel welcomed in the space. Children are able to flow around the space and access activities of their choice. The zones and possible activities included within them:

Lower Playground	Ball Court	Nature Area
<p>Parachute games</p> <p>Quiet reading area (table)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Books • Drawing and pens • Word search/ crosswords • Craft activities • Dot-to-dot • Big chalk for floor • Teddy bears <p>Games area (table and surrounding area)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speed stacking • Board games • Big puzzles- giant connect 4 • Sand tray • Small world toys <p>Construction (big square table with builders tray and floor)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenga blocks • Big lego <p>Stage (corner near Shed)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic microphones • Dressing up • A mini stage • Instruments <p>Static physical activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoops • Skipping • Swinging ankle balls • Catch the ball in the cup 	<p>Running zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coned area- half • Hurdles • Bean-bag balance • Skipping • Zig-zag challenges • Fitness activities <p>Ball games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coned area- half • Football • Basketball • Tennis • Swing ball 	<p>Mud kitchen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free play <p>Physical challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyre balancing <p>Natural Thinkers Activity</p> <p>E.G. Transitional art with natural objects. Observational drawings with charcoal. Etc</p> <p>Wendy Houses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • imaginative play

Times of play

First play 10.30-10.45: Y2 and Y3

Second play 10.45-11: Y1, Y4, Y5, Y6

Lunchtime: Reception children followed by KS1 children come out from 12.30 when they have finished eating. KS2 children play from 12.30 until they are called into the dining hall to eat. Lunchtime play ends at 1 for KS1 and Reception and 1.30 for KS2.

Safeguarding

- Disclosures may occur during playtime and all staff should take appropriate action following the school's safeguarding policy.
- Staff should complete yellow forms, as per safeguarding policy.
- If an accident occurs the adult who first encounters the issue is to deal with it and follow first aid procedures- they are to fill in accident slips which need to be given to the child's class teacher so that they are aware and can pass on to the parents/ carers at the end of the day

Playground experience for children with Special Education Needs

The playground can be a stressful experience for some children with Special Education Needs because of noise and less structured nature of the space. Therefore children with one to one support are supported by their TA along with their friends/ peers. All adults should be extra vigilant to support children with SEN to be included in socializing and games.

Evaluation, monitoring and review

The playground is an area which involves the whole school community every day so it is monitored on a daily basis. Each day a member of SLT is timetabled to monitor the playground during lunchtime along with a play leader to ensure that all the zones are well managed and to intervene if there are any difficulties. This evidence is collated in a folder in the Head Teacher's office. The next time this policy will be reviewed will be when the school transfers to the new site. Following this the policy should be reviewed on an annual basis drawing on the evidence in the playtime folder. Each time the policy is reviewed staff are given audits to fill in about the successes and needs of their playground zones. Children also take part in this review. These audits are then analysed by SLT and appropriate action taken to improve the areas in collaboration with those responsible for the zones.

This Policy is linked to the Safeguarding and Child Protection Policies, PSHE and Dinner Policies.

Awaiting Ratification

Agreed by Governors on:

Signed:

Designation: Chair of Governors

Date: