

















copyright OPAL 2020

# **O**utdoor **P**lay **A**nd **L**earning

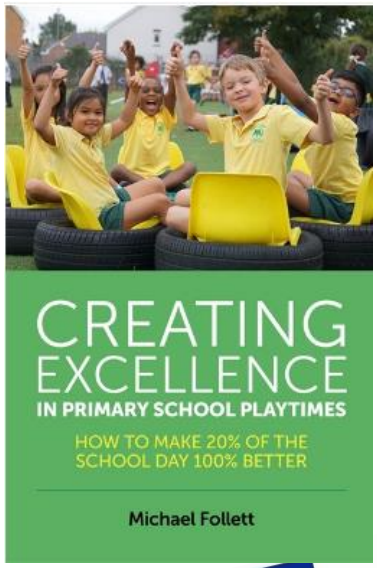
Welcome

# Outdoor play in primary schools

## 2018 European Winners

## Active School Programme Awards

UK active AWARDS 2018 FINALIST




THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

SPORT ENGLAND




Erasmus+

# Our aim

**Amazing playtimes,
for every child,
every day**

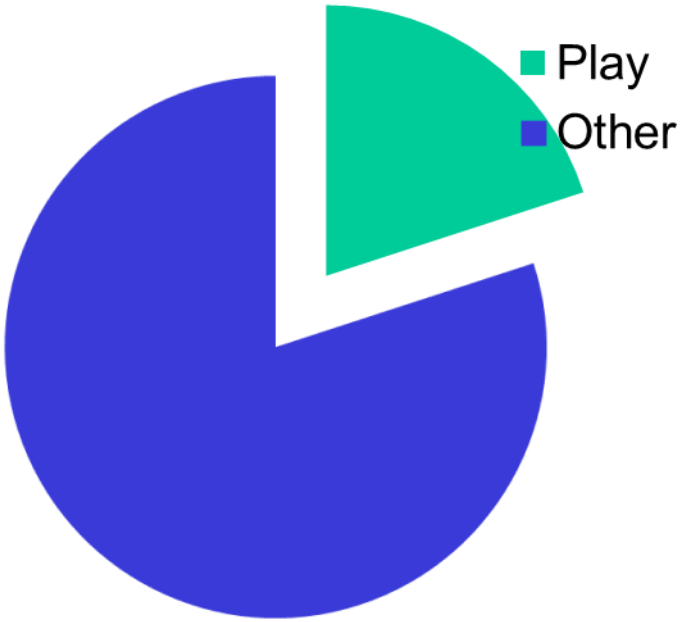
# Our Team

Sophie Macartney
Rachel Cronin
Paul Dowsett
William Romp

Parent representative – Jenny Day
Governor representative- Jo Kitson
Play Leaders – Our Teaching Assistants and CATS playworkers

# Why is this so important?

## Play makes up 20% of school life




### Per Year

231 hours

37 days

7.4 weeks

### Primary Years

1.4 years

# Childhood has changed…. children have not!

Let's think play…..10 years old.
Where were you,
who were you with,
what were you up to?



# How does this meet the needs of children?




**We are the gatekeepers of children's experience: we control , restrict or provide access, permission, time, space, and opportunities.**

# Benefits of Play

- strength and endurance
- whole body co-ordination
- emotional attachment
- emotional and social skills
- hand-eye co-ordination
- thinking, reasoning, problem-solving and creativity
- early language development
- self-regulation – emotions, actions
- mental representation
- communication skills
- literacy
- numeracy
- artistic creativity
- narrative skills
- social and group work skills
- understanding rules
- social skills
- discussion skills
- resilience

# Integration



- New friendships
- Inclusion
- Social Skills
- Non-judgemental
- No age restriction
- No Gender bias

# Play Team

Meet the new Play Team!

**Play team Charter**





# The importance of risk in children's play

**RISK** MEANS Going beyond what is already known or easily accomplished





Health and Safety Executive

**CHILDREN'S PLAY AND LEISURE – PROMOTING A BALANCED APPROACH**
**SEPTEMBER 2012**

*Key message:*
*'Play is great for children's well-being and development. When planning and providing play opportunities, the goal is not to eliminate risk, but to weigh up the risks and benefits. No child will learn about risk if they are wrapped in cotton wool'.*

**STRIKING THE RIGHT BALANCE MEANS**

- Weighing up risks and benefits when designing and providing play opportunities and activities
- Focussing on and controlling the most serious risks, and those that are not beneficial to the play activity or foreseeable by the user
- Recognising that the introduction of risk might form part of play opportunities and activity
- Understanding that the purpose of risk control is not the elimination of all risk, and so accepting that the possibility of even serious or life-threatening injuries cannot be eliminated, though it should be managed
- Ensuring that the benefits of play are experienced to the full

# The impact of OPAL



More physically active more of the year



Developing life skills – resilience, competence



Risk management skills, Improved decision making



Social skills, team building, negotiation



Improved mental health and well-being



100% girls more active



Huge core skills improve-ment



Improved behaviour




Less accidents, incidents and winging



More inclusive

No child bored, or feeling left out



Increased learning time – More settled and ready to learn



Cost saving – SLT and Teachers time

# No age restriction on a mud kitchen.



# Creating a playful environment – Outdoor loose parts.



# Imagination  Creativity, Team work!



# New Resources!




















# Natural Loose Parts


Acorns


Grass


Leaves


Logs


Pine Cones


Rain & Water


Sand


Snow


Shells


Soil


Sticks


Stones


Wild Flowers


Wood Cookies

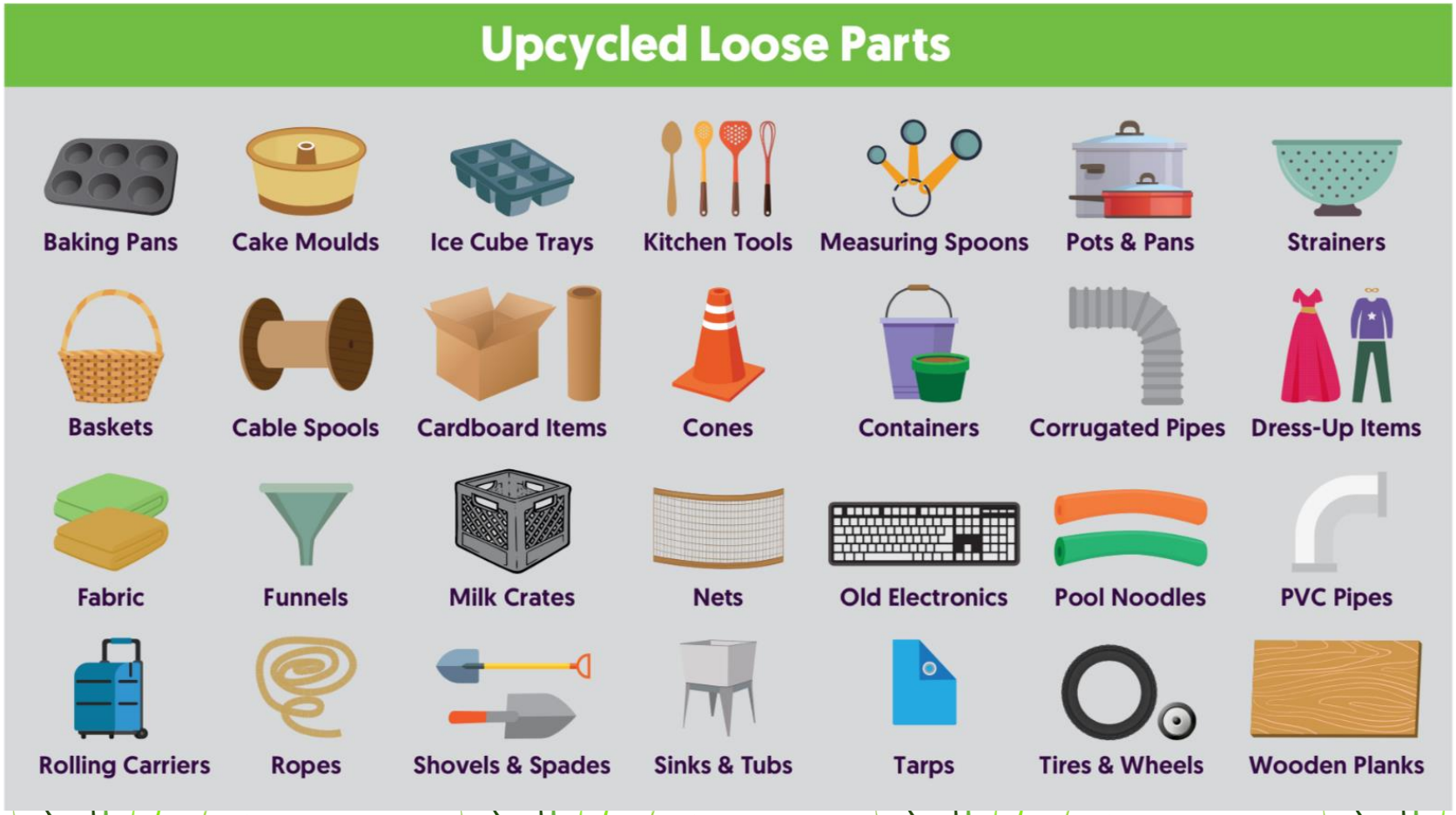






# We still need your help

Thank you…please keep sending in resources for playtime.



# The Essentials

A coat



A pair of welly boots or out door shoes



Tolerance of dirt and mud



Outdoor play is essential to your child's health and well-being



All areas open



You can go outside if you have a **<u>coat</u>** and can change into **<u>outdoor shoes</u>**.

Field is closed

<u>Outside</u>

**Astro** open (football rota)
**Table tennis** open
**MUGA** open
**Wheeled area open**

<u>Inside</u>

**Film Y3 - Y6** - Harlequin Hall
**Film YR – Y2** - Colliseum CATs room
**Arts and Crafts** – Harlequin Hall
**Board Games** Y1- Y2 - 1H
**Junior Library** (except Wednesdays)
**Infant Library** (except Fridays)
**Lego** Harlequin Hall



**<u>No outdoor play</u>**
Playtime in classrooms

# Football



# Time to play!



**2:30pm to 3:00pm**

All areas are open for you to see and play

Staff are outside if you have any questions

Let the children show you around

Toilets for adult use are just outside the Harlequin hall.

If you need first aid please see a staff member.

Have fun!

**Areas open**

Mud café
Digging
Lego
Small world
Arts and crafts
Libraries Junior and Infant
Den building
Sand pit
Zone climbing frame KS2
Wheeled area
Muga – Basketball / Tennis
Field – Volley Ball
Infant Play frame
Table tennis



# Thank you

For supporting us as we progress on our OPAL journey

Photos may be taken of your child. **Please do not share on social media.**

**Any comments or feedback – please use our “post it” note notice board displayed outside on the MUGA.**

**At the end of play (3pm) the children will line up and return to class. Parents/Carers should wait on the MUGA for pick up.**