

Fun 4U Club

38 Out Door Play Policy & Procedures

Principle

We aim to provide as safe an environment as humanly possible, for children during their play experience within the outdoor play area at Fun 4U Club.

Statement of intent

Fun 4U Club believes that

- Children have the right to as safe an environment as humanly possible to play in.
- Children develop more comprehensively through exploring their own abilities and boundaries.
- Play opportunities can also be eco-friendly, teaching the children environmental awareness.
- Trying new experiences helps to develop the whole child as the reward from achievement is immense to their own self-esteem and self-worth.
- Giving the child the opportunities to self-assess their own risks at this stage in development is a sound foundation for later life, allowing the child to feel confident in assessing situations of risk.
- In an outdoor setting a child's aspect of imaginary play is greatly enhanced as the change in surroundings add to their catalogue of play scenarios.

Procedures

We aim to provide a play environment that is, as far as reasonably practicable, safe without stifling the opportunity of free flow play, exploration and self-development for the children.

- The appropriate areas are risk assessed by both Fun 4U Club staff and management as well as Social Services Staff.
- All efforts have been made to address any issues raised by initial risk assessments.
- Play areas are regularly checked for any hazards.
- Play equipment, both fixed installation playground equipment and portable play equipment is checked before each play session for wear and tear.
- Where risks have been identified they are dealt with as a priority. If repairs are required the effected play equipment will be deemed (out of order) and not used until proper repairs have been made.
- If any equipment is deemed on repairable, it will be disposed of promptly.
- General safety rules will be explained to the children on an ongoing base.
- Children exhibiting dangerous behaviour to themselves or others in the group will be reminded of the risks that are evolved and asked to modify their behaviour.
- Should the said child not amend their behaviour, another choice of activity will be offered to them for the duration of the play session.
- Parents should be aware that although risk assessment have been carried out and all efforts made to address any hazards identified, there is still an element of risk involved in using all types of play equipment both in door and out door.
- Parents will be required to read and sign a letter giving parental consent for their child/ren to use all fixed installation playground equipment when attending Fun 4U Club. This letter must be completed and returned before their child/ren will be allowed to commence play on this type play equipment.