

Outdoor Learning

Flourish and grow with responsibility, respect and resilience.

“As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

John 13:34

Intent:

At Harleston CE Primary Academy, we believe that opportunities for all children to enjoy first-hand experiences outdoors, whether within our beautiful school grounds, in the local countryside or further afield in wilder environments will motivate our children to become successful learners and to develop as healthy, confident, resilient, enterprising and responsible citizens.

From their experiences of the outdoors we intend for our children to develop the following essential skills to help them become :

Healthier - Creating a love for nature and the great outdoors can lead to lifelong recreation, which is ideal for physical and emotional wellbeing.

Smarter - Outdoor learning encourages children to make links between curriculum areas. This awareness promotes lifelong learning and develops critical thinking skills.

Safer and stronger - Outdoor activities can help build stronger relationships between peers and the wider community. Children have the opportunity to develop skills to assess and manage risk when making decisions.

Greener - Regular outdoor learning encourages children to engage with the natural world and understand the global significance of sustainability issues and inform personal decisions that contribute to a greener world.

Implementation:

Children will experience a range of outdoor opportunities throughout their time at Harleston Primary Academy. This includes regular curriculum time within the school grounds, visits to the local area and residential trips.

In Early Years and KS1, children explore and develop a sense of ownership of their school grounds through regular weekly outdoor sessions. As children move into KS2, outdoor sessions are incorporated into topic work, such as Maths, English, Science and RSHE and will take place within school grounds and on residential trips.

Impact:

Our Outdoor Learning Curriculum is planned to provide a progressive range of outdoor learning experiences. If children are keeping up with the curriculum, they are deemed to be making good or better progress. In addition, we measure the impact of our curriculum through the following methods:

- Children will retain knowledge and use vocabulary that shows an awareness of the natural world and the importance of their role within looking after it for future generations
- Children will achieve the standards based on the planned outcomes
- A photographic record of learning for each year which demonstrates progression across the school
- Continued pupil discussions about their learning demonstrating links across the curriculum

- Observations of lessons

