



Gidea Park

PREPARATORY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Outdoor Supervision Policy (Nursery)

December 2021

The benefits of learning outside the classroom are endless. Being outside allows children to express themselves freely and unlike an indoor classroom, there aren't any space constraints meaning children can jump, shout and explore to their hearts content.

The sense of freedom playing outdoors brings is fantastic for a child's development, both physically and mentally.

While being outside is a chance to let the children have some freedom, it is always still important for staff to maintain proper supervision. The nursery operates a 'free-flow' system at certain times of the day, outside or normal break times. From 10am and 2pm, children are welcome to explore a variety of activities both indoors and outdoors under supervision of staff. Nursery children, particularly the 3 and 4 year old's, will be encouraged to join normal school breaks and play with the school children.

- All children in our care must be fully supervised at all times by experienced members of staff.
- Staff must be aware of how many children they have in their charge at all times and exactly where these children are.
- All activities must be supervised appropriately bearing in mind the ages and abilities of the children and the complexities of the activity i.e. water play, cutting, climbing, jumping and using the slide.
- Staff must place themselves in the best position to achieve optimum visual supervision when they are outdoors. Particular areas may require dedicated supervision e.g. the sandpit and slide.
- It is nursery policy to ensure that staff interact with the children without disturbing the flow of free and creative play.
- Staff should remember that free play in the garden is a social experience for the children and not the staff.
- Staff should refrain from sitting on furniture, walls, benches or the floor unless directly engaging with the children.

The above points must be followed at all times.