



Outdoor **P**lay **A**nd **L**earning
Welcome



Objectives



- What is OPAL?
 - Key principles
- Importance of Playtime
- School Council
 - What the children think
- How you can help?
 - School development plans



Our aim



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



What is OPAL?



OPAL is a UK and world leader
in supporting schools improve the quality of children's play

Delivery

- ✓ Over 500 UK schools and 250,000 children
- ✓ Projects in Canada, New Zealand, Australia, France and Poland
- ✓ £250,000 funding from Sport England and the National Lottery 2020

Citations

- National Children's Bureau
- Public Health England
- All Party Parliamentary Group on Childhood
- Cambridge University PEDAL (Play Education Development and Learning)
- Sport England

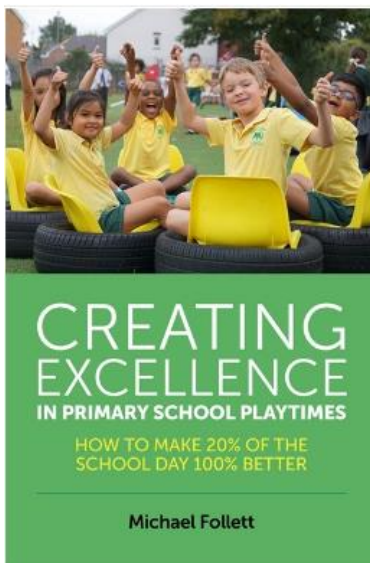


Outdoor play in primary schools



2018 European Winners

Active School Programme Awards



Erasmus+



Key Principles - Integration



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

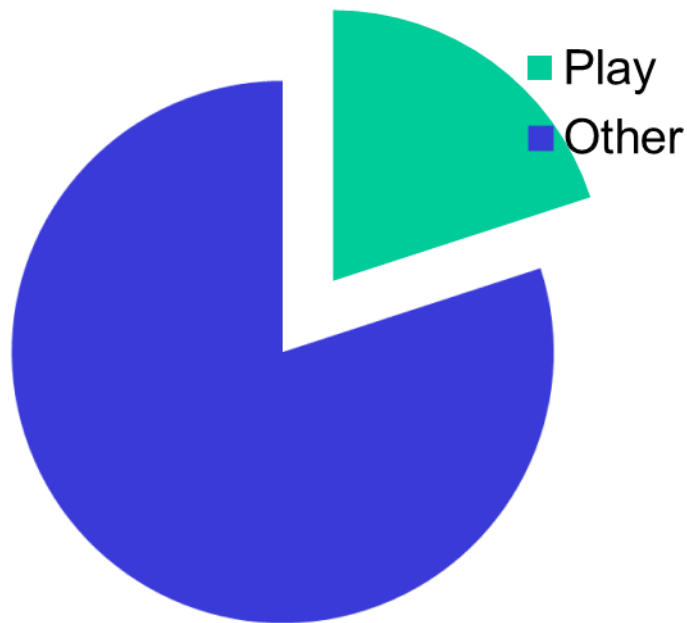
Key Principles - Imagination Creativity, Team work!



Importance of Playtime



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



UK Children screen time average 6 hours per
day

Importance of Play



- Physical literacy
- Emotional Literacy
- Social Literacy





Supportive
Models behaviour
Follows child's direction
Provides resources
Thinks about when to intervene
Waits to be invited
Observes
Learns and Reflects

Awareness allows us to make the
changes we need to support a child.

School Council Voice



There are lots of things to keep you busy, before we didn't have anything.

I like getting to play on the stilts and dressing up."

What do the children think?

It is exciting, there is so much to do and I have lots of fun."

I love being able to be with my friends and draw with chalk."

I love that I get to play with Year 6, I didn't get to do that before."

How we are developing play



- New Play Policy and Pupil Play Charter
- Improving the play environment
 - Different play zones
 - Different activities
- Risk Benefit approach
 - Risk assessments
- Whole school training
- Play Assemblies
- Parent Play sessions



Creating sustainable change in culture and practice



How you can help



Thank you...please keep sending in resources for playtime

Upcycled Loose Parts



Baking Pans



Cake Moulds



Ice Cube Trays



Kitchen Tools



Measuring Spoons



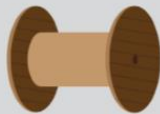
Pots & Pans



Strainers



Baskets



Cable Spools



Cardboard Items



Cones



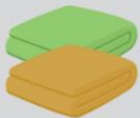
Containers



Corrugated Pipes



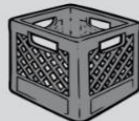
Dress-Up Items



Fabric



Funnels



Milk Crates



Nets



Old Electronics



Pool Noodles



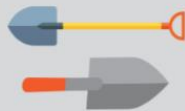
PVC Pipes



Rolling Carriers



Ropes



Shovels & Spades



Sinks & Tubs



Tarps



Tires & Wheels



Wooden Planks

The Essentials



A waterproof
coat



A pair of welly
boots



Tolerance of
dirt and mud



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



Thank you for
your support

Importance 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