



Outdoor Learning Policy

JULY 2015

Outdoor Learning Policy – Ysgol Cedewain

Outdoors learning covers a wide range of learning experiences:

Statement

We value the outdoors as an important part of the school curriculum. Active learning experiences outdoors give pupils opportunities to develop their skills in a practical way, make them feel good and to explore their world. It is also important for children's physical, mental and emotional development.

We believe that pupils should be supported to face challenges and to take managed risks outdoors. The Foundation Phase fully supports playing outdoors.

Aims:

We aim to enable children to use the outdoor area as a context for learning throughout the year.

We aim to provide a safe, stimulating outdoor environment where space is used effectively to enable children to explore a broad and balanced curriculum using a range of interesting resources suitable to their individual needs.

Methods:

- The outdoor area will be resourced and available for the children to access.
- Focus activities may be planned for outdoors at a time of the day.

We believe that access to the outdoors is beneficial to the health and well being of pupils. As a consequence we do not want to restrict a child's choice to play and learn outdoors.

Whenever children are using the outdoor area we will ensure it is staffed with the appropriate ratios of adults to children according to the needs of the group.

Appendices - Examples of outdoors learning at Ysgol Cedewain

Appendix 1 - Foundation Phase outdoor provision:

See Foundation Phase policy - use of continuous provision of outdoors area.

Recent development of outdoors areas with a grant from Natural Resources Wales.

Appendix 2 - Outdoor learning around school and wider community:

Photographic examples e.g

Growing plants in the school grounds - planting boxes, flower tubs, polytunnels.

Projects in the community - painting the underpass in Maesyrrhandir

Appendix 3 - Forest School:

See Forest School policy.

Pupils have opportunities to experience Forest Schools with a level 3 Forest School leader on a rolling programme.

Appendix 4 - Adventurous activities:

Photographic examples e.g

Visits to Staylittle outdoors education centre at Clywedog - sailing / canoeing

PGL outdoors pursuits holidays.

Appendix 5 - Accredited courses:

ASDAN Horticulture for 14-19

Duke of Edinburgh awards - Bronze and Silver offered for appropriate pupils aged 14 and over.

Signed	<i>P.M. Sillitoe</i>	Headteacher
Signed	<i>G.T. Owen</i>	Chair of Governors
Date of Review:		