



## East Linton Nursery Outdoor Learning & Play Policy

*"There is a growing body of research that shows that young children's access to nature and outdoor play is positively associated with improved self-esteem, physical health, development of language skills and disposition to learning." Davis 2009*

Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states that *All children have the right to play and relax and to join in a wide range of activities.*

It is important that children should be given the opportunity, on a regular basis, to enjoy energetic activity and take their learning outside. Outdoor play provides an environment that responds to individual learning styles. It complements and enhances all aspects of children's development and learning through its physical and open-ended nature.

### Our aims

To provide routine access to stimulating outdoor play opportunities/spaces on a daily basis throughout the year

To provide resources which support learning and development across the curriculum

To develop an appreciation of natural beauty and a sense of wonder at the world around us

To provide opportunities for children to build confidence and experience a sense of achievement

### We do this by:

- Ensuring the outdoor area is well resourced, safe and secure
- Modelling a positive attitude to outdoor play/learning
- Raising parental awareness of the benefits of the outdoors
- Encouraging parental involvement in outdoor activities
- Interacting with the children to extend their learning
- Providing a range of resources that cover all aspects of the curriculum
- Presenting resources in a stimulating manner
- Providing resources that allow children to make choices, mistakes and take risks within a safe environment
- Provide outdoor activities on a daily basis
- Dressing the children appropriately for all weather conditions
- Encouraging activities started in the nursery to be extended in the home and outdoor environment
- Planning appropriately in order to respond to children's needs and interests
- As a staff engaging in appropriate training ( CLPL) to keep our practice flexible and current

