

Richmond Hillbillies Policies and Procedures 2020/2021

Richmond



Hillbillies

Play Policy

Hillbillies aim to follow the Playwork Principles to promote child led play opportunities for all children who attend the club. These Principles help us to ensure we are providing the best possible opportunities to meet every individual child's play needs, make friends, and have fun whilst learning about the environment and world around them. Our staff aims to support your children whilst they play freely, experience new things and follow their own interests in a fun, knowledgeable and safe environment, developing a range of skills that will encourage their confidence and independence.

Playwork Principles

These Principles establish the professional and ethical framework for playwork and as such must be regarded as a whole. They describe what is unique about play and playwork, and provide the playwork perspective for working with children and young people. They are based on the recognition that children and young people's capacity for positive development will be enhanced if given access to the broadest range of environments and play opportunities.

1. All children and young people need to play. The impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity, and is fundamental to the healthy development and well being of individuals and communities.
2. Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. That is, children and young people determine and control the content and intent of their play, by following their own instincts, ideas and interests, in their own way for their own reasons.
3. The prime focus and essence of playwork is to support and facilitate the play process and this should inform the development of play policy, strategy, training and education.
4. For playworkers, the play process takes precedence and playworkers act as advocates for play when engaging with adult led agendas.
5. The role of the playworker is to support all children and young people in the creation of a space in which they can play.
6. The playworker's response to children and young people playing is based on a sound up to date knowledge of the play process, and reflective practice.
7. Playworkers recognise their own impact on the play space and also the impact of children and young people's play on the playworker.
8. Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. All playworker intervention must balance risk with the developmental benefit and wellbeing of children.

Covid 19 all guidance will be followed as per school's policy & procedure & risk assessments.

Play & Activities

Some types of play may contain an element of **risk**; it is Hillbillies aim to manage the balance between offering risk in play that will help a child's developmental needs, and the responsibility to keep children safe from harm.

Outdoor play is available whenever possible we operate a free flow system; we recognise the importance of providing the opportunity to experience outdoor play for all children.

Playcarers take an active part in play if the children want them to. They are aware that the needs and the developmental stages of the children vary and they respect their individuality, efforts and achievements.

Activity planning is led by children with input from staff taking into consideration our responsibility in meeting the needs of the children through the EYFS requirements.

Parent/ Carers suggestions are welcomed.

By encouraging child led play opportunities we are enabling children to develop their self esteem and independence. Child led play opportunities enable children to participate in what they actually chose to do. This may mean the children chose to participate in the same 'play' over several sessions.

Ages, abilities and interests of the children are taken into consideration too.

Toys and Equipment

Our club is well equipped for both, indoor and outdoor play activities with a wonderful range of resources. We regularly review our resource's and children and staff are consulted when new toys, games, equipment etc is being purchased. Equal opportunities & safety issues are considered.

Hillbillies are only funded from Parent/Carers fees and our equipment is one of our big areas of expenditure.

Children are through our club rules of **Honesty, Respect, Consideration and Responsibility** are aware of the importance of looking after our toys and equipment. However sometimes through anger or thoughtlessness the children can forget our rules and toys and equipment have previously been damaged sometimes beyond repair. If a child/ren damage toys and equipment through misadventure it may be necessary for the Parent /Carers of the child/ren concerned to replace all or part of the cost of replacing the damaged item. This decision will be made after discussion with the children concerned the provision Manager, School Principle and the child's Parent/Carers.