



DEBS OUT OF SCHOOL CLUBS

PLAY POLICY

Debs Out of School Clubs believes that children's play shall be self-directed where children have the right to explore, make decision, express and develop their ideas in their own way. We provide an environment which enables children to develop their confidence, self-esteem, promote independence, to respect others and understand right from wrong. The club recognises that play is a vital component of a child's life. We will ensure that children have access to freely chosen, varied, child-centred play opportunities. Within the framework of current legislation we will aim to ensure that:

- The child will be centre of the play process
- Children will be consulted and listened to, and their views acted upon where possible
- We employ staff who are appropriately qualified and/or experienced in play work / early years childcare
- Staff are responsive and help to enrich children's play opportunities and foster an environment where children can discover their own solutions and develop at their own pace.
- Staff facilitate appropriate risk to increase children's awareness of their physical capabilities and limitations whilst balancing this with the need for play opportunities to take place in a physically and emotionally safe environment.
- Wherever possible, play opportunities promote equality of opportunity, challenge discrimination, are fully inclusive and value each child as an individual.
- Wherever possible, play opportunities motivate and empower children, increase their self-esteem and confidence, therefore encouraging positive attitudes.
- Positive relationships are built and maintained with parents and children to develop consistency and gain an understanding of the child's individual needs.

"Parties recognise the rights of a child to rest and to leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate of the age of the child"
(THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTIONS ON THE RIGHTS OF A CHILD, ARTICLE 31)

"Play is nature's training for life"
(LLOYD GEORGE)

In addition, Debs Out of School Clubs is committed to involving children in decisions that will affect them. We will consult with them, listen to their responses, acknowledge their views, act accordingly and provide them with feedback.