Active learning outdoors

We are very fortunate to have such a wonderful school environment.

The outdoor learning that our school environment offers is motivating and provides different opportunities for learning. Some learning that takes place indoors can be revisited outdoors, with staff making connections between indoor and outdoor learning across the curriculum.

All aspects of the curriculum can be explored outside. The sights, sounds and smells of the outdoors, the closeness to nature, the excitement most children feel, the wonder and curiosity all serve to enhance and stimulate learning.

Active learning, including purposeful play, has a positive and lasting impact on children's learning ..

At Christ the King Primary School, we think of learning as a spiral process, in which learning in one time is revisited and developed in the next. In this way we are able to respond to children's different patterns of progress

Active Learning- all weathers

The children will use the outdoors even when it is raining.

To facilitate this please outdoor waterproofs are provided by the school. We also have a selection of wellies.

You are very welcome, if you prefer, to provide your child with their own outdoor waterproofs and footwear.

Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled as one Wellington looks very much like another- particularly when they are muddy!

Active Learning



What do we mean by active learning?



Children learn by doing, thinking and exploring, and through quality interaction, intervention and relationships which all combine to build positive dispositions to learning.

Active learning is seen as an appropriate way for children to develop vital skills and knowledge and a positive attitude to learning.
Active learning is learning which engages and challenges children's thinking using real-life and imaginary situations. It takes full advantage of the opportunities for learning presented by:

- spontaneous play
- planned, purposeful play
- investigating and exploring
- events and life experiences
- focused learning and teaching
- supported when necessary through sensitive intervention to support or extend learning.

All areas of the curriculum
can be enriched and developed through play.

Active learning in the early years can support children's development as:

- successful learners through using their imagination and creativity, tackling new experiences and learning from them, and developing important skills including literacy and numeracy through exploring and investigating while following their own interests.
- confident individuals through succeeding in their activities, having the satisfaction of a task accomplished, learning about bouncing back from setbacks, and dealing safely with risk.
- responsible citizens through encountering different ways of seeing the world, learning to share and give and take, learning to respect t themselves and others, and taking part in making decisions
- effective contributors through playing together in leading or supporting roles, tackling problems, extending communication skills, taking part in sustained talking and thinking, and respecting the opinions of others.

Using the outdoor environment.
Young children learn best when they have scope for active involvement in a wide range of learning experiences. The learning environment – both indoors and outdoors – needs to provide challenge and opportunity to explore exciting learning possibilities. Our Reception Class provides flexible and stimulating environments to fully engage children in their learning.

Opportunities are provided in our school for children to learn through social, sensory, creative, constructive and dramatic activities. Children's responses to these different contexts will depend upon their interests and stage of development. Space is provided for children to work alone, for children to work together in pairs or groups and for them to rest and be quiet.

