

# FREE FLOW PLAY

**Q: What safety measures are in place?**

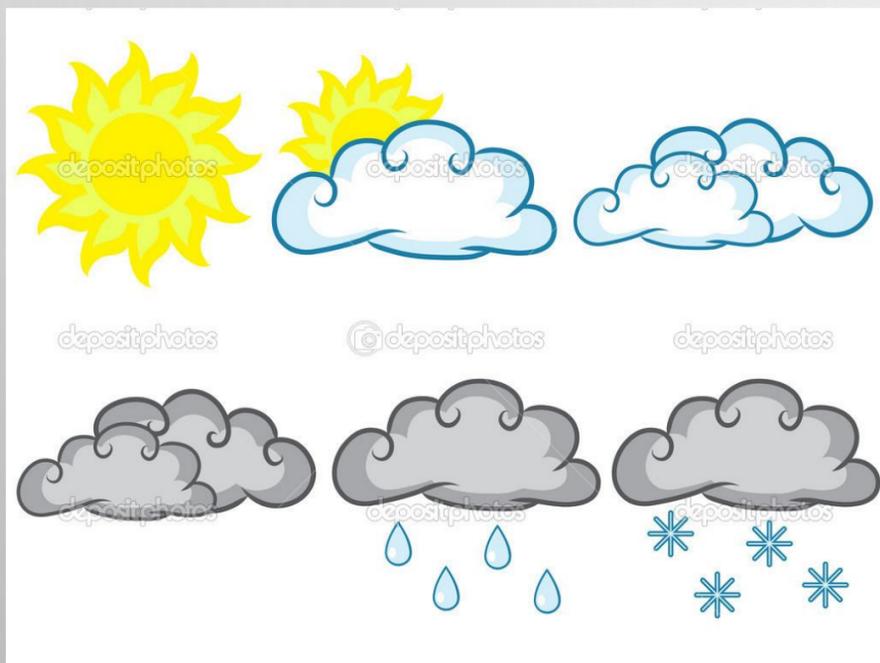
**A:** Free-flow play is managed by staff to ensure learning opportunities are planned and the safety of children, including staff-to-child ratios, is fully considered. It's essential that all risks are assessed outdoors, just as you would do with inside areas, and this will help free-flow play to work more smoothly. Including children in identifying risks and planning to overcome them will give them the skills to begin to manage their own safety

**Outdoors has the same learning opportunities and many, many more !!**

**Q: How do I deal with unpredictable weather?**

**A:** All types of weather can present challenges, so pre-planning is key. In preparation for sunny days, hats, creams and short sleeved tops in bag. Changeable weather such as rain or snow provides its own challenges, but it's still important to allow children to venture out, as long as they and staff are suitably dressed and it's safe. Free-flow play in cold or wet weather is an ideal opportunity to teach children to put on their coats, shoes or waterproof clothing, helping to develop their fine motor skills.

**Remember, playing in rain, snow, wind and sun all provide invaluable opportunities for learning that cannot be found elsewhere.**



**We will go out in all weathers!**

**UNITED NATIONS**

**CONVENTION OF RIGHTS OF THE CHILD:**

**ARTICLE 31: TO REST AND LEISURE, TO ENGAGE IN PLAY AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES APPROPRIATE TO THE AGE OF THE CHILD AND TO PARTICIPATE FREELY IN CULTURAL LIFE AND THE ARTS.'**

**LAW**

**Q: Introduction of free-flow outdoor play opportunities in the setting - what are the benefits to children?**

**A:** Daily outdoor play is an important part of children's learning and is required by the EYFS. It offers many new learning experiences, and boosts mental and physical wellbeing and confidence. Free-flow play adds further benefits, giving children more space and freedom to explore the world around them, letting them make decisions and assess risks while reducing the feeling of being rushed from one activity to the other. Children all have different learning styles and needs; some prefer to play and learn outside, and should be offered this opportunity wherever possible. Some may not have outdoor space at home, in which case it's even more important

**Q: How do I manage ratios with free-flow play?**

**A:** We have a system where one staff member is stationed outside and one inside with other 'floaters' who will follow the children, to enable them to have freedom whilst staying safe.