

## Play Policy

All children are entitled to play; it is intrinsic to their quality of life and an important part of how they learn and enjoy themselves. At our camps we recognise the importance of play to a child's development, as play workers we support and facilitate play, and do not seek to control or direct it. We will never force children to participate in play but allow children to initiate and direct the experience for themselves.

### **Facilitating play**

We support and facilitate play by:

- Providing an environment which is secure and suitable for playing in.
- Setting up the camp so that activities are ready before the children arrive.
- Providing a range of equipment, resources and activities daily.
- Consult with children to request additional or alternative equipment as they choose, and if a request must be refused, explaining why.
- Not expecting children to be always occupied.
- Making outdoor play available every day, unless the weather is extreme.
- Involving children in planning activities, to reflect their own interests and ideas planning activities that enable children to develop their natural curiosity and imagination.
- Allowing children freedom of creative expression.
- Intervening in play only when necessary: to reduce risks of accident or injury, or to encourage appropriate social skills.
- Warning children in advance when an activity or game is due to end.

## Play areas and equipment

- All indoor and outdoor play areas are checked and risk assessed daily before the children arrive in accordance with our **Site Risk Assessment**
- The Club keeps an inventory of resources and equipment, which is updated regularly and reviewed to identify where any additional resources are required.
- The resources used at the Holiday camp promote positive images of different ethnic backgrounds, religions, and abilities, in line with our **Inclusion and Equality Policy**