

## Outdoors Long Term Plan

At Stamfordham Primary School our values are Resilient, Ambitious and Nurturing and our Early Years offer aims to have these values at the centre of everything we do, both indoors and out. We have six diverse outdoor areas in our school grounds which our children can access to support their development within the Early Years Foundation Stage, including the Characteristics of Effective Learning and enjoy the wellbeing benefits of being outside in nature. Each area offers something different and encourages the development of a wide range of skills and knowledge.

**Early Years outdoor area:** This area is where we spend the majority of our time outdoors. It is an outdoor space which has been developed with the aim encouraging small groups of children to play together and individual children to have a quiet place to be. This area includes spaces where children can gather for different purposes: the reading shed, the cabin, under the A-frame, the picnic table, the café area, the water area, the maths area, the kitchen, the sand pit, the construction shed/area. This outdoor provision enables our children to develop the following skills: communication, speech and language; social skills; empathy; problem solving; creativity; resilience; a growth mindset; collaboration; self-regulation. Our continuous provision remains the same throughout the year with enhancements added to support the children's interests, or topic and to promote next steps in learning.

**The woodland area:** We run our Woodland School in this area. Our aim is to support children to develop a love of nature and their understanding of it. They are encouraged to assess risks, follow safety rules, use tools, be creative, grow in confidence and explore.

**The pond and planting area:** We use this area in addition to the woodland area to encourage children's love of nature. We visit the pond area to learn about animal life cycles and to look closely at minibeasts, birds and flowers. Children are encouraged to learn new vocabulary; develop a broader knowledge of wildlife; assess risks and be safe.

**The yard, play tower and obstacle course:** We use this area to support the children's gross motor development and enjoy risky play. The children have access to a range of challenges on the play tower and obstacle course. Children are encouraged to assess risks, follow safety rules, have a growth mindset, self-regulate, have a go, build confidence, collaborate and empathise.

**The MUGA:** We use the MUGA for most of our PE lessons taught by a specialist. Lessons include a range of games and skills to develop gross motor skills, teamwork, resilience, leadership, a growth mindset, self-regulation, self-awareness.

**The Field:** This is a large, open space, surrounded by trees, is where children can feel free. They can run, find a quiet space to sit or play with their friends. Children are encouraged to enjoy the space, move energetically, be mindful and use their senses to enjoy the natural area.