



Goldsmith Primary Academy: Approach To Sustainable Outdoor Learning

Intent

At Goldsmith Primary Academy, our outdoor learning and sustainability curriculum provides an inspirational, child-centred approach that promotes holistic growth. Pupils develop confidence, self-esteem and curiosity through hands-on, learner-led experiences in a natural setting. Our aim is for every child to connect with nature, take measured risks and develop a lifelong respect for the environment.

Implementation

- **Curriculum Design:** Delivered from Nursery to Year 6, complementing classroom learning and the WAT Aspire Curriculum. DFE Nature Park cross curricular learning allows core subjects to be taken outdoors - reinforcing how children can live sustainably.
- **Approach:** Sessions are child-led, allowing pupils' interests to shape activities — from den building to bug hunting and creative exploration.
- **Progression:** Skills develop over time, from early tool use and fire safety in EYFS to independent fire lighting and outdoor problem-solving in upper KS2.
- **Environment:** Sessions take place both inside the school ground and also in our local area. Our woodland area, school planters / allotment enables consistent access to nature.
- **Inclusion:** Every pupil participates, with adaptations made to ensure all can explore, create and achieve success outdoors.

Impact

- Pupils show increased confidence, independence and resilience.
- Engagement in outdoor learning enhances behaviour, wellbeing and teamwork across all areas of school life.
- Practical learning fosters respect for nature and a sense of responsibility for the environment.
- Pupil Voice:
"Learning outside helps me feel calm and confident."
"I love learning outdoors because it makes me think differently."

Assessment

- Assessment for Learning (AfL) through active observation, dialogue and reflection.
- Teachers adapt sessions responsively based on pupil interests and developmental needs.
- Progress recorded through photographic evidence, journals and pupil reflections.
- Focus on personal, social and emotional growth as well as practical skill development.

Subject Knowledge, Skills and Vocabulary

Our outdoor learning curriculum develops confidence, resilience and respect for nature. Pupils learn to:

- **Explore and discover** – engage with natural materials and environments safely.
- **Collaborate and communicate** – work together, share ideas and problem-solve.
 - **Develop practical skills** – build, use tools and manage risk responsibly.
 - **Reflect and grow** – show independence, resilience and emotional awareness.
 - **Respect nature** – understand sustainability and care for the environment.

Progression from EYFS to Year 6 ensures every child develops the character, confidence and curiosity to thrive in and beyond the classroom. We want our children to be green citizens of the future.