

Playground Policy

Introduction.

At Tonge Moor Primary Academy we set high standards and expectations about the curriculum and the spiritual, moral and social environment in which staff and children work. Staff see their role as enabling children to be successful learners and to deal with and resolve the complexities of life in positive and socially responsible ways. Staff are positive role models in everything they do promoting respect of each others' rights. Our playground policy has been developed to help create a caring ethos in the playground which is in line with our behaviour and anti-bullying policy.

Aims

These are the agreed aims of the staff of our school. They are reviewed annually. We have a shared vision of developing relationships and a curriculum that ensure that everyone feels valued, respected and reaches a high level of achievement.

Positive

To develop high positive self-esteem in all children and adults.

To have a consistent and effective reward system that promotes positive play.

Resilient

To enable children to be able to find solutions to problems themselves with little adult guidance.

To employ a direct approach which focuses on problem solving and enables pupils to take an active role in finding a solution to the problem.

Emotionally Intelligent

To support children in ascertaining the skills that help them to empathise and understand the worries of their peers.

To encourage children to seek the support the Playground Friends/Mediators.

Key Skills for employment

To develop confident communicators

To support children to be cooperative and be able to work as part of a team.

To give pupils opportunities to develop their social skills through playing and interacting with other pupils and adults in a stimulating and caring environment.

Daily activities in the playground

We have a selection of daily activities and resources to help pupils develop skills needed to co-operate, share and take turns. The activities are located within different zones and can vary from week to week. An adult will lead each activity with the support of the 'Playground Friends'.

The Quiet Zone The area is located under the selter on the tables and benches it is used for reading, drawing, board games, other co-operative games. An adult will support in this area by bringing the necessary equipment out and supporting children within this area.

The Football / Basketball/ Netball Zone The yard next to Ainsworth Lane is used to play football and basketball. An adult will support in this area by ensuring that children turn take and play safely.

The Music Zone The area outside SLT has a music system and a selection of music, an adult will support children by demonstrating key dance moves.

The Activity Zone The bench and tables area in the middleplay ground yard has a different 'craze' each week and children are encouraged to take part, these include, skipping, rounders, traditional playground games, hockey, tyre rolling and assault courses. An adult will facilitate each of these activities.

The Friendship Stop

There is a sign on the fence between the two main play grounds are the seats by the walls where lonely children can sit and wait for someone from the Playground Friends to come and talk to them and help them join in activities.

The Climbing Wall

This is an area of wall grips where you can get some exercise.

First Aid

A member of staff will be timetabled to this role each week.

Lining Up Zone

Children, who have been identified by the teacher, for not lining up appropriately, will line up outside the SLT office window for 5 minutes and will be supervised by a member of staff.

Tonge Moor Play Workers & Teaching Assistants

What do they do?

Set up necessary equipment

Lead an activity

Send any first aid incidents to the timetabled first aider

Deal with any concerns brought to them by children/Playground Friends/ Playground Mediators and decide how best to deal with the problem

Reward children who demonstrate the 'Aims' of the playground policy by awarding a certificate weekly

When do they carryout this role?

Every breaktime during the school day

Rewards and Sanctions

See behaviour policy.

During lining up time, award the best line a 'Breaktime token'

For children that are not lining up appropriately, ask the children to join the 'lining up zone' the following breaktime

Award children a weekly certificate for the child displaying the best playground behaviour based on the playground aims.

Safeguarding

See safeguarding policy.

If playworkers notice adults approaching children through railings, on the yard, they must approach them to assess the risk.

Playworkers to assess any risks in the environment and report these to Mrs Bonney, Mrs Thornley or a member of the SMT.

Any safeguarding concerns must be reported to a member of the safeguarding team.

Tonge Moor Playground Friends

The Tonge Moor Playground Friends are children who apply for jobs to help out at lunchtime.

What do they do?

Help to take out, set up and put away playground equipment.

Teach children different games.

Befriend lonely children and help them make friends.

Tell teachers if they have concerns regarding playground behaviour.

Have training sessions to help them develop skills they may need (peer mediation, listening skills, being fair etc.)

Why do we need them?

They are positive role models and teach values about caring and friendship.

They raise their own and other pupils self esteem.

They help create a positive ethos in our school.

Who supports them?

All playground staff support the Playground Friends during lunchtime.

They have meetings with Mrs Money & Miss Cowell to share concerns and celebrate successes.