





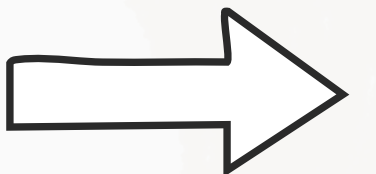
OPAL is an award-winning school improvement programme to support schools to improve the **quality of their playtimes.**

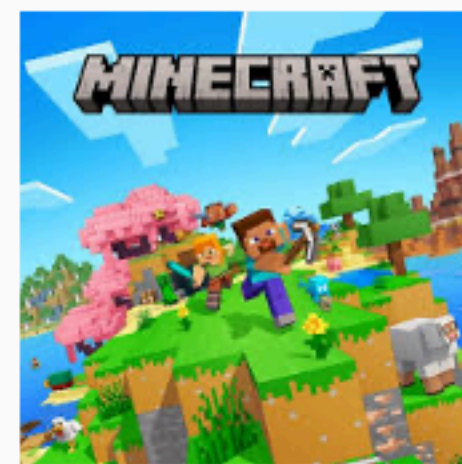


- in over 2000 UK Primary Schools
- 12% of children having OPAL lunchtimes

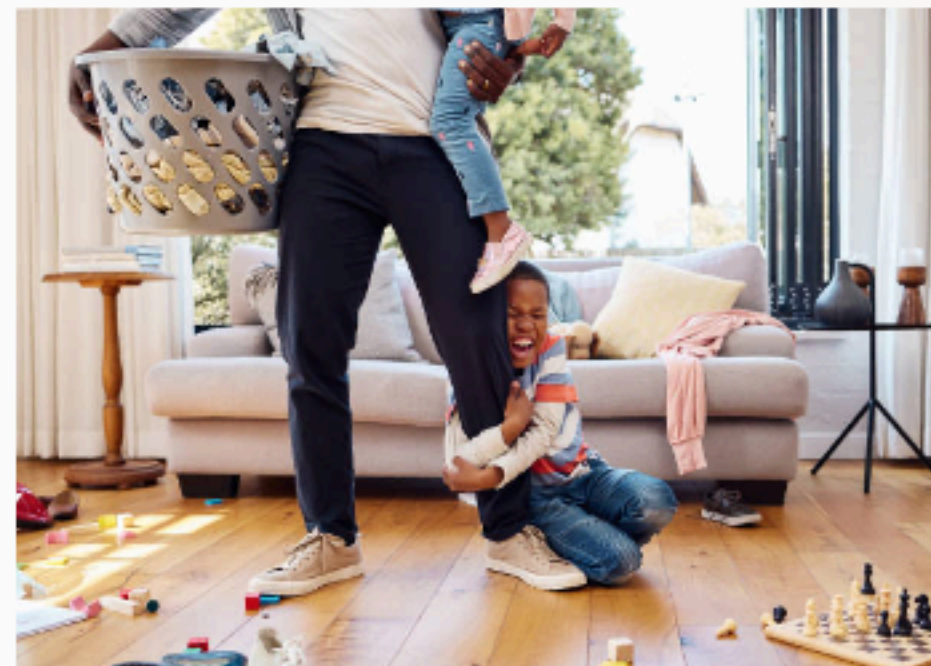


WHY?





6 hours a day on screens,
on average



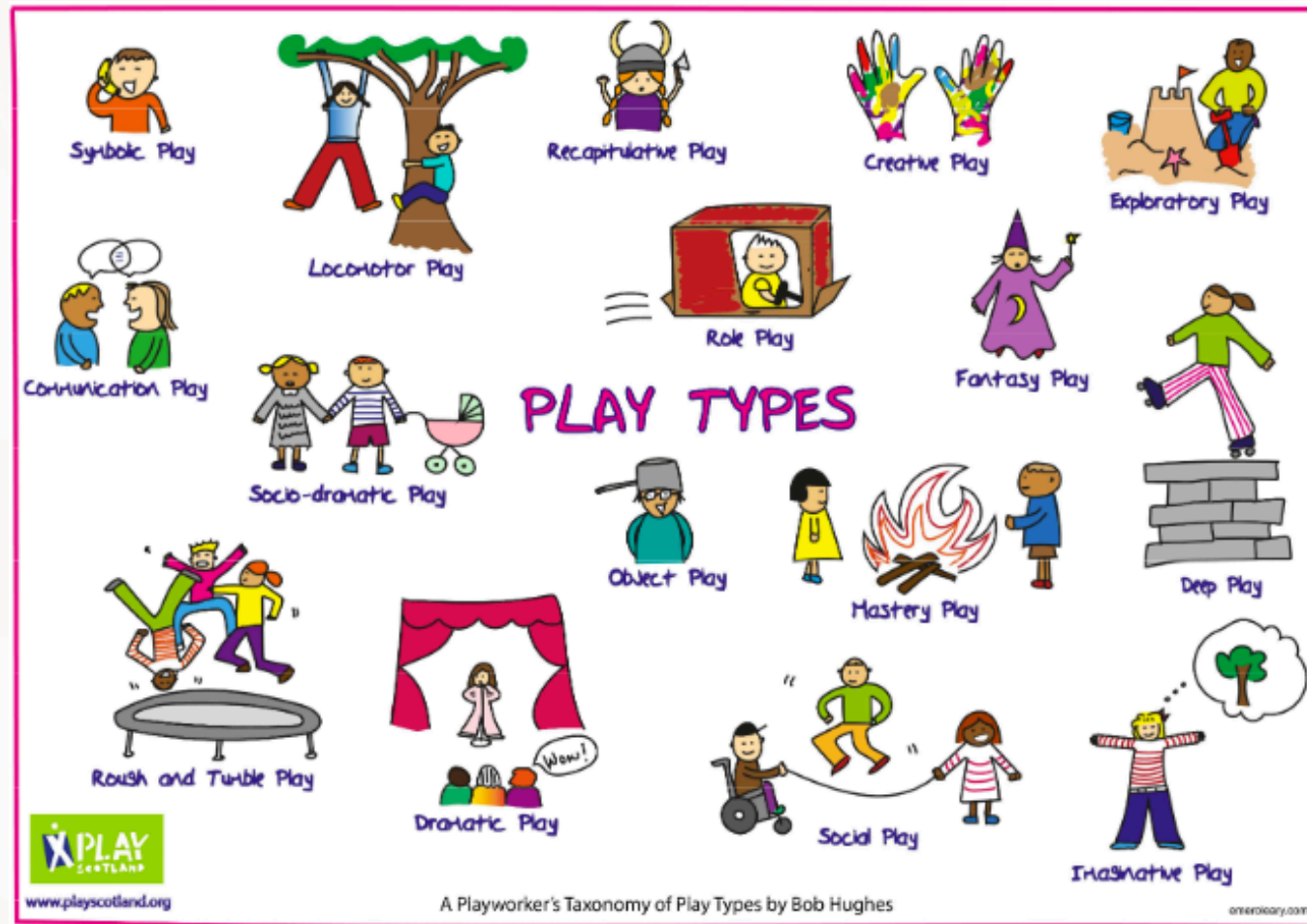
Children's wellbeing + happiness in England at record lows

Raising the Nation Report, 2025

WHAT?



What does this mean for your child?



Outdoor play all
year round



Cross age play



Lots more movement +
physical activity

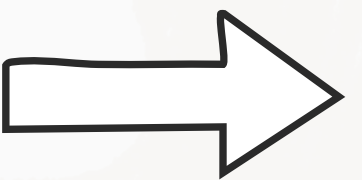


Strategic
Leadership



Supervised by
staff trained in playwork

WHAT
ELSE?

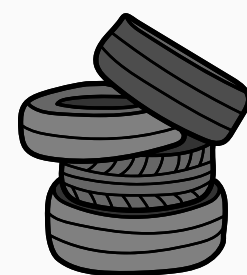


Risk + Challenge

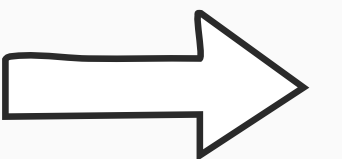
Just like in the classroom, your children will have opportunities to excel outside



- risk will be introduced gradually
- regular Play Assemblies
- staff + children trained in dynamic risk management
- trained staff, with designated zones + supervision models
- inspections, monitoring + development



BALANCED
APPROACH





Children's Play and Leisure

Promoting A Balanced Approach

September 2012

Health and Safety
Executive

'Play is great for children's well-being and development.'

'When planning and providing play opportunities, the goal is not to eliminate risk, but to weigh up the risks and benefits.'

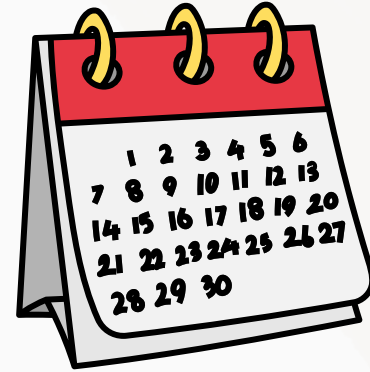
'No child will learn about risk if they are wrapped in cotton wool'.

Striking the right balance means:

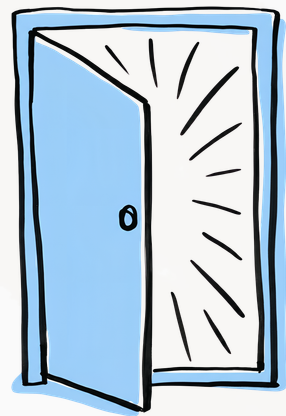
- Weighing up risks and benefits.
- Focussing on and controlling the most serious risks.
- Recognising that the introduction of risk might form part of play opportunities and activity.
- Understanding that the purpose of risk control is not the elimination of all risk
- Ensuring that the benefits of play are experienced to the full



What will you see change?



Nothing, for a bit!



How the grounds look + are being used



Wellies + waterproofs



Requests for donations



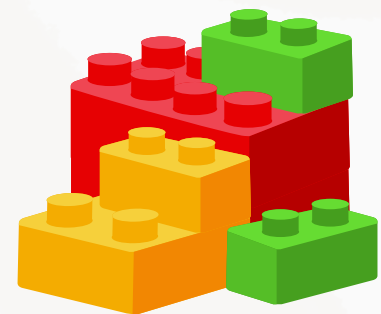
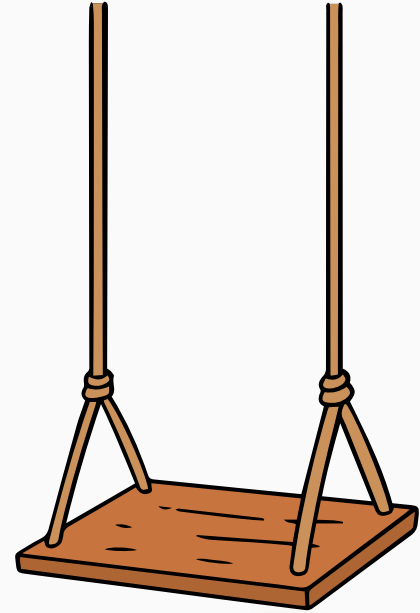
What can you do to help?

Value + celebrate the play

Tolerate a bit of mess!

Ensure your child will be warm + dry
when they're playing outside

Support with donations, community links,
work connections + spread the word!





THANK YOU

@opalwestmids

www.outdoorplayandlearning.co.uk