

PERRYFIELDS PRIMARY PRU



LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM POLICY

Review Date	Developed and Reviewed Date	Reviewer (Who?)	Approved By Name and Date
December 2022	22.11.22	SLT Education Sub Committee	Management Committee 13.12.22
December 2024			

Minutes Reference	
Signature of Chair	

Statement of intent

We believe that Learning Outside the classroom (LOTC) opportunities are an integral part of the entitlement of every pupil to an effective and balanced curriculum. Appropriately planned visits and activities are known to enhance learning and improve attainment, and so form a key part of what makes Perryfields Primary PRU a supportive and effective learning environment. The benefits to pupils of taking part in visits and learning outside the classroom are outlined in this policy.

At Perryfields we believe that every young person should experience the world beyond the classroom as an essential part of learning and personal development, whatever their age, ability or circumstances. We nurture our children's social and emotional development, both within our school environment and with our variety of extended learning educational visits. Wherever possible, the staff incorporate learning outside the classroom into their daily curriculum. Across all classes the staff are supported and encouraged to take learning beyond the four internal walls.

Leadership of Learning Outside the Classroom

The Learning Outside the Classroom Subject Leader will be the key point of contact for policy and planning of all learning outside the classroom, offering expertise in their aspect of leadership. This will include:

- Promoting staff to seek and develop LOTC visits and experiences using curriculum topic themes and the pupil's interests as inspiration. Pupil voice and dialogue is crucial in developing high impact and meaningful LOTC experiences.
- Encouraging all staff throughout the organisation to seek out and suggest LOTC opportunities using their own networks and connections.
- Monitoring standards of quality and safe practice
- Providing high quality continuous professional development
- Ensuring the provision from all the identified strands is being delivered across the whole school
- Providing adequate resources to enable teachers to deliver Learning Outside the Classroom, including ensuring that suitable clothing and footwear is made available to all staff and pupils when required.
- Embedding the Intent and implementing policy
- Ensuring that practices are up to date and informed by current guidance on procedure
- Disseminating new approaches to good practice and guidance on procedures
- Ensuring effective LOTC induction for new staff
- Leading or arranging training and ensuring activities are competently led
- Supporting, as necessary, the planning of activities and evaluation of LOTC
- Maintaining accurate records of visits The Learning Outside the Classroom

The Subject Leader will oversee the development of LOTC and will be responsible for updating the policy every two years and reviewing its success throughout the year.

Inclusion, Equality and Diversity

In line with Perryfields' Equality and Diversity Policy we use the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that those pupils with protected characteristics are not discriminated against in relation to Learning Outside the Classroom.

Namely:

- Age
- Disability
- Race, colour, nationality or ethnicity
- Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Religion and belief

The Curriculum and Learning Outside the Classroom

At Perryfields we have established key drivers through which we deliver an exciting and engaging curriculum, both within and outside the classroom. These are:

1. Aspirations

We want our pupils to be **ambitious**, so that they can be the best versions of themselves. Our **unique** Perryfields curriculum **challenges** our pupils to believe in themselves and reach their full potential.

2. Communication

To develop the pupils' ability to **communicate** with the world around them **positively** and **constructively**.

3. Learning Powers

The Perryfields Learning Powers are the skills that underpin our **broad, balanced and ambitious** curriculum. Developing **character education** through our 'powers' enables pupils to **thrive** and **flourish** and be well prepared for **life-long learning**.

Perryfields Curriculum is designed to meet the needs of our pupils and Learning Outside the Classroom (LOT) is an integral part of this. Examples of the specific needs of our pupils that are being met through LOTC include:

- Engagement / awe and wonder
- Links with basic skills in Maths and English
- **Rich** and **broad** experiences (educational visits, visitors, projects and events)
- Emphasis on life skills
- Staying **healthy**
- Promote positive learning behaviours, and personal development behaviour and welfare (safety, group work, **collaboration** etc...)
- Promote **independence** within learning to prepare our pupils for the next steps in their learning
- **Knowledge**, understanding and skills in all aspects of their education including...The humanities, linguistic, mathematical, scientific, technical, social, physical and artistic.
- Knowledge and Understanding of our community, Country and wider world
- Developing age appropriate social and emotional skills.
- Building resilience around outdoor classrooms and activities.
- Understanding of British values, cultures and key events in the past.
- To know how to be a responsible citizen within the local community
- To understand and respect different cultures and religions, present within the local community, in Britain and throughout the world

- To begin to recognise the opportunities beyond the local community.

LOTG gives pupils the opportunities to try new things and to be able to take calculated risks outside of the classroom. WE want LOTG to motivate them to learn and develop the resilience to carry on when things are difficult. We do this by:

- Providing experiences of the local and wider environment beyond our pupils' everyday lives
- Developing confidence, self-awareness and life skills
- Encouraging controlled and 'safe' risk taking
- Developing pupil's knowledge, understanding and skills
- Providing a stimulating and enjoyable education
- Fostering curiosity and bring learning alive
- Encouraging independent thinking
- Promoting imagination and creativity
- Providing sensory stimuli
- Encouraging children to develop the skills to solve problems, developing resilient and reflective learners
- Developing skills of communication, cooperation and collaborative learning
- Engaging pupils in practical first hand experiences
- Allowing children to develop skills, knowledge and understanding without the constraints of a classroom
- Fostering spiritual development by providing awe and wonder
- Taking children out of their comfort zone
- Allowing children to discover new interests and talents
- Developing positive relationships
- Promoting and provide inclusive experiences for all pupils
- Enabling pupils to play, explore and investigate

Learning Outside the Classroom at Perryfields

We have identified six broad strands which constitute what we perceive as Learning Outside the Classroom at Perryfields:

1. Weekly Visits – Eg Acton Care Farm

For ten years this collaborative partnership has enabled pupils to experience weekly visits. A range of activities are provided that develop pupil's knowledge, understanding and skills in a sequenced way. Achievements are recognised and rewarded to enhance self esteem.

2. Educational Visits to places of interest/related to topics – Eg RAF Cosford, National Space Museum. We actively encourage teachers to plan opportunities for children to engage in learning beyond the school grounds. These are planned into all aspects of the curriculum and, by taking learners beyond their familiar environment we are providing awe and wonder (spiritual development), stimulating their curiosity and imagination and motivating children in a powerful way.

3. Visiting and experiencing the local environment – Eg The Hive Library, Guhlevelt Park, Worcester Museum and Art Gallery. The locality around school harbours a wealth of opportunities within relatively accessible distance. Learners can develop their awareness, skills, knowledge and understanding of their local environment. Important life skills, aspects of SMSC, citizenship, community awareness, values and aspects of safety are included, demonstrated and practised on the visit.

4. Using onsite outdoor spaces to deliver specific aspects of the curriculum – Eg Earth and Space, PE, observational drawing. The school site provides a large area for pupils to engage in practical and visual activities that can help to deepen their knowledge and understanding.

5. Forest activities – Eg Brockhampton Primary School. This is an outdoor education delivery model in which students visit natural spaces to learn personal, social and technical skills. The woodland environment will also be used to give children first hand, kinaesthetic experiences linked to subjects from across the curriculum.

6. Residential experiences – Eg Llanrug, West Malvern, Camping at Woodfield House. Staying away from home is a powerful way of developing key life skills, building confidence, self-esteem, communication and team working. Our residential provide children with an opportunity to widen their range of experiences and find new skills and interests in which they may excel.

We will endeavour to ensure that all pupils at Perryfields will experience outside of the classroom learning opportunities from each of these strands during their time at school. (Residential experiences are an exception as these are only available to full time pupils).