



SIMPLY PENDOYLAN

PLAY POLICY

Statement of Intent

The Club recognises that play is a fundamental part of childhood and essential to children's development, wellbeing, and happiness. We are committed to providing a high-quality, inclusive, and child-centred play environment where children can play freely, safely, and in accordance with their own interests.

We follow Playwork Principles and recognise that:

"Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated."

We also recognise Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that all children have the right to rest, leisure, and play appropriate to their age and development.

Aims

We aim to ensure that:

- Children are always at the centre of the play process and their ideas, interests, and choices are respected
- Children are supported and encouraged to make their own decisions about what and how they play
- A wide range of varied, inclusive, and child-led play opportunities are provided
- Play experiences are accessible to all children and actively promote equality of opportunity and inclusion
- Children are supported to develop confidence, self-esteem, independence, and positive attitudes
- Opportunities for creativity, exploration, and problem-solving are encouraged
- Children are supported to take appropriate risks to help them understand their own abilities in a safe and managed environment

Practice and Approach

To support this, the Club will:

- Employ staff who are appropriately qualified, trained, and/or experienced in playwork
- Ensure playworkers act as facilitators of play, supporting rather than directing children's activities

- Create a welcoming environment where children can follow their own ideas, instincts, and interests
- Provide a range of play opportunities that are responsive to children's needs and preferences
- Encourage children to develop their own solutions, make decisions, and progress at their own pace
- Balance the need for safety with the importance of challenge, risk, and learning through experience
- Foster positive relationships between children and staff, based on respect and trust
- Promote inclusion and ensure that discrimination is actively challenged

Children's Participation

The Club is committed to involving children in decisions that affect their play.

We will:

- Consult with children in ways appropriate to their age and understanding
- Listen to children's views, ideas, and feedback
- Act on children's suggestions where appropriate and practical
- Provide feedback so children understand how their views have been considered

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

The Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children. All play opportunities will take place within a safe, supervised, and supportive environment in line with current legislation and statutory guidance in Wales.

Review

This policy will be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains up to date, effective, and compliant with relevant legislation and regulatory requirements.

"Play is nature's training for life" Lloyd George