

Zetland Primary School



Beach School Policy

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Introduction:

Beach School is seen as an important part of the curriculum at Zetland School. Beach School complements the EYFS and Key Stage One and Two curriculum delivered at the school and fits in with the whole school vision of developing an organic curriculum that is centred around the individual child enabling all children to reach their full potential socially, emotionally and academically during their time with us. Beach School sessions shall be planned and delivered by a member of staff with an Open Awards Beach School Leader qualification. They will be supported by other members of staff from the school. The Beach School Leader will have an appropriate outdoor first aid certificate and will be responsible for all emergencies during the sessions. All children will be given the opportunity to access Beach School sessions in each academic year. This will include whole class sessions. The sessions will be planned so all children will be able to participate irrespective of gender, race or special needs. Additional support will be given to children who need it to be able to access the sessions. Regular observations will be taken of all children during the Beach School sessions by the adults working with the children. These will be discussed after the sessions and used to plan the next steps for the children in line with the school's policy on assessment, recording and reporting. The Beach School sessions will take place on the beach in front of the Stray. The Health and Safety Policy for Beach School will be followed for all sessions and risk assessments will be in place for all activities.

Health and Safety:

The Beach School Leader is responsible for the Health and Safety of the staff and children when in Beach School. The Beach School Leader is responsible for surveying the Beach School site for hazards before each session and completing the appropriate risk assessments for all the activities that are going to be undertaken. A mobile phone should be kept with the Beach School Leader at all times with emergency contact numbers for the School, Head Teachers and office.

General Health and Welfare:

All staff to be aware of the general welfare of children, young children get cold very quickly so additional clothes should be available along with the emergency blanket and survival bag. Hot drinks and high calorific snacks should be available on cold days. Beach School sessions should finish if children are starting to get cold. School has extra supply of waterproof coats and trousers which children can use if they do not have appropriate clothing. The sheet with allergies and medical conditions should be bought to each Beach School session. Inhalers should be kept in an easily accessible box in stable. On hot days' children should wear hats and sun cream in line with the school's current policy on sun cream. The Beach School Leader should have a current certificate in outdoor first aid and is to take responsibility in case of any accidents and emergencies. Accidents should be reported to parents on the accident forms that are used following school procedures.

Weather:

The Beach School Leader to keep a close eye on the weather conditions and cancel or shorten sessions if necessary. Sessions should be cancelled in high winds and extremely cold temperatures. After ice and snow the site should be carefully checked for hazards. Beach school sessions are planned in line with tide times.

Clothing:

All children to wear sensible footwear, ideally wellies, snow boots or trainers. No sandals, crocs or other open shoes to be worn during sessions. Socks to be worn to protect legs. School have extra waterproof clothing for children to use. Children to wear long trousers to protect their legs from scratches and stings. During cold and damp weather children to wear waterproof tops and trousers. Staff to assess whether they think the children are wearing sufficient layers of warm clothing and provide spares when necessary. Children to wear sun hats or caps during hot weather. If a child is not wearing the appropriate clothing and spares cannot be found the child can be left with the other group in the school. In cases like this the parents should be informed at the end of the session so that they are able to provide the appropriate clothing for the next session.

Toilet Arrangements:

Children to use toilets in the school buildings before setting off to the beach. During Beach School the Beach School Leader would remind children to go before leaving school and will have contacted local business to check if needed then child and school staff can go there. For example, The Stray Café and Zetland Park.

Food and Drink:

Forest and Beach School Leader to ensure children bring snack and water bottles during morning. If sharing a snack sharp knife for cutting fruit to be kept with blade cover on in secure box in trolley. On colder days Hot Chocolate kept in vacuum flasks, staff responsible for checking temperature before children drink it. Staff to ensure that children clean their hands thoroughly with wipes and antibacterial wipes before eating or drinking anything. Beach School Leader responsible for preparing any hot snacks on the fire. Children not to touch hot pans and kettles. Beach School Leader responsible for hygienic preparation of food in line with current Health and Safety regulations. Beach School Leader responsible for ensuring food is thoroughly cooked and at an appropriate temperature when given to the children.

Refuse Disposal:

All food waste to be returned to school in a tied black bag to be disposed of. No food to be left in Beach School site to discourage rodents.

Tool Policy at Beach School:

The Health and Safety Policy shall be followed and risk assessments put in place before tools are used at the Beach School.

Tools are to be stored in a secure shed at the school. They are to be transported to each session in the tool box. An inventory of the tools in the box is to be checked at the beginning and end of each session to ensure that no dangerous tools are left at the Beach School. Only tools needed for that session will be taken.

The Beach School Leader is responsible for cleaning and maintaining the tools after each use. Any defective tools are to be removed immediately and replaced before they are used again.

All tools should be kept in the tool box whilst not in use in the Beach. Tools are to be removed and put back in the box by a responsible adult who ensures the fastenings are always kept closed.

Tools should only be introduced to the children by the trained Beach School Leader. This should always be done by using the recommended tool talks and demonstration by the Leader; they should only be used when the Beach School Leader feels that the children understand how to use them safely.

The tools should always be used in the designated tool area at the Beach. The Beach School Leader should make sure that this area is always kept clear of dangers and trip hazards and that the group understand the need to walk sensibly around this area.

Fire Policy at Beach School:

The Health and Safety Policy shall be followed and risk assessments put in place before fires are lit at the Beach School.

Fires shall only be lit by the Beach School Leader and only within a fire area.

A fire will only be lit with a group if the Beach School Leader feels all the group understand and will be able to follow all the safety rules and guidelines. As the children are young, only one child will be allowed to be in the fire area at a time with the Beach School Leader.

Before using the fire area, the Beach School Leader will check the area for hazards. It is to be kept clear from trip hazards at all times.

The fire will always be lit by a flint. It will be kept small and manageable. The Beach School Leader will be responsible for the fire at all times that it is lit and will never leave a lit fire while children are in the area.

There will always be plentiful supplies of water for emergencies in the fire area and the first aid kit will include the appropriate equipment for dealing with scalds and burns.

All people feeding the fire will be shown and expected to use the respect position at all times. This is the safest position to be in to prevent tumbles into the fire.

Pans and kettles will only be removed from the fire by the Beach School Leader using a flame proof glove. They will make sure the children are aware of the dangers of touching hot pans and will always ensure that food and drink given to children will be at an appropriate temperature.

All waste from the fire area will be collected and returned to the school to be disposed of at the end of each session.

The fire will be spread out and left to die down and then doused with plentiful amounts of water before the group leave the beach. The Beach School Leader is responsible for ensuring that the fire is out and the area is left safe before leaving the site.

Insurance:

Insurance for activities within Beach School are included within the school's insurance policy.

Equal Opportunities:

In the first instance please refer to the school Equalities Policy. All people involved in Beach School sessions will be treated with respect and equality. Our priority is to ensure that children and adults have access to a safe and secure environment. We believe that any contributions made by staff, volunteers and participants in our sessions will be listened to and appreciated.