

## Playground Supervision Policy

### **Aims**

Article 31 of the United Nations Rights of the Child (UNCRC) states that 'Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.' Lamlash Primary School understand the value of outdoor play to help develop healthy, curious and active children who are better connected to their environment. We are committed to provide, as far as is reasonably practicable, a safe playground environment for all pupils in our school (UNCRC Article 19 and Article 2 and Article 23). This policy seeks to clarify the level of supervision provided before and during the school day so that all staff, parents and carers are aware of the standards that are expected.

### **Responsibilities**

The Head Teacher will:

- Ensure adequate staff are available to meet the required supervision requirements for a minimum period of 15 minutes before the start of the school day (8:45), during break times and lunch times and at the end of the school day when all pupils have left the school grounds or are under parental/carer supervision (15:05).
- Ensure staff are aware of their responsibilities.
- Continue to develop a safety culture and safe environment for our young people.
- Ensure that this policy is communicated to parents and carers.
- Review and evaluate the supervision procedures as required.

### **Supervising staff will**

- Support and assist in the implementation of this policy.
- Support and assist in the implementation of the agreed 'Playground Charter' as created by the children (right holders) in collaboration with the supervising staff (duty bearers).
- Reinforce a 'safe play' message.
- Report any concerns to the Head Teacher.
- During these time periods, supervisory staff will direct all visitors with business in the school to the school office and direct others off the premises.

### **Parents and carers will**

- Respect the arrangements provided for the supervision of their children and acknowledge the times that supervision will be available.
- Inform the school of any changes to the arrangements for the collection of their child.

Parents and carers should also note that there will be no playground supervisors in attendance before 8:45 and are therefore encouraged to either refrain from bringing their pupils earlier than the specified time or remain with their children until supervisors enter the playground at 8:45.

### Pupils will

- Adhere to the agreed 'Playground Charter' as created by the children (right holders) in collaboration with the supervising staff (duty bearers).

<p><b>Right holders will...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use kind words to adults and children.</li> <li>• Use kind hands and feet at all times.</li> <li>• Tell an adult when someone is being unkind or when they are hurt.</li> <li>• Listen to adults and other children.</li> <li>• Include people in their play.</li> <li>• Be respectful of other children and adults.</li> </ul>	   	<p><b>Duty Bearers will...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take care of children if they are hurt.</li> <li>• Listen to all children.</li> <li>• Take all incidents seriously.</li> <li>• Make sure that any arguments are dealt with restoratively.</li> <li>• Encourage kind and safe play.</li> <li>• Support children in recognising which 'zone' they are in and help them to regulate.</li> </ul>
--	--	--

### Special Arrangements

Supervision will be provided in the playground from 8:45 until 9:00. Once the school bell has been sounded the gates will be closed and any latecomers must report to the main school reception area.

### Break Times

The teacher will:

- Dismiss their class to the playground and check that supervisory staff are present before leaving the area.
- If a child's behaviour has proved challenging, the class teacher, in collaboration with management, parents and the pupil themselves, will create a supervision support plan for individual play time needs. This support plan will be tailored to individual situations and children.

### Lunchtimes

The playground will be supervised at lunchtime by designated staff. Communication between the supervising member of staff and the school office may be undertaken by a senior pupil or another member of staff. In the event of an incident or unexpected occurrence, the Head Teacher will ensure additional support will be provided to assist in the situation.

If a child's behaviour has proved challenging, the class teacher, in collaboration with management, parents and the pupil themselves, will create a supervision support plan for individual lunchtime needs.

There will be no access to the playground for visitors during lunchtime. Visitors to the site are required to report to the main reception via the front entrance and not through the playground.

### **After School**

The early warning taxi bell will sound at 14:55. Children requiring taxis will leave via the front exit, all other children will leave via the rear exit at 15:00. Children will be escorted to the door and Class Teachers, alongside the janitor, will ensure that pupils are met and collected by an appropriate person unless they have permission to walk home.

Staff will not release children to persons that are not known to them and parents and carers must communicate any alternative arrangements to the school if they wish their children to be collected by another named person.

### **Additional Information**

***Due to health and safety concerns, dogs are not permitted within the school grounds.*** We would ask parents, carers and community members to respect this request.

### **Special Arrangements**

Following After School Clubs, sporting occasions and off-site activities that have been planned to finish after the end of the school day, parents and carers are asked to collect their children from the main entrance. Staff will ensure that children are only released to a known person unless prior permission has been given to either walk home alone or be collected by another named person.

### **All Other Times**

Parents and carers must be aware that the school will **not** provide supervision for pupils in the playground outwith these times, including parents' evenings and parent council events. The children will be the responsibility of parents or carers at all other times, other than those stated in this policy.

### **Supervision of Play Equipment before School Day, Break and Lunch Times**

Adults may not always be positioned close to equipment and will not intervene in children's free play unless:

- Children are pushing and pulling other children
- Children are climbing equipment not designed for that purpose
- Children are using equipment in an inappropriate and unsafe manner
- Children are lifting other children in order to access the equipment

- Children are causing damage to the equipment

After school hours the playground equipment is not supervised by school staff and any use of this should be supervised by parents and carers. The school cannot be held responsible for any accidents, incidents or injuries on this equipment outwith school hours.

Please note that if there is any concern about the use of the equipment that may have sustained any damage, the Head Teacher will decide whether to prevent pupils using it until it has been inspected.

### **Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually at the start of each academic year (August) and at any point throughout the year to take into account of any safety issues, changes to equipment, layout, legalisation and changes to circumstances.

DRAFT