



Playground Policy

This policy sets out how we organise break times in the morning and at lunchtime.

The vision for the playground

At Becket Primary we believe children's playtime should be a positive experience for all children. It should promote physical development through the use of small apparatus, promote social development particularly co-operation, turn-taking, sharing and caring for others and should provide opportunity for the children to relax and have fun.

When is Break-time?

Reception class has continuous provision for indoor or outdoor learning, therefore there are no set break-times. All other year groups will have break-time between 10.30-10.45am.

Lunchtimes are staggered starting from 12.00-1.15pm for all year groups

How is playtime managed?

To support the size and layout of the school grounds a minimum of two, but usually three, staff will be on duty. Staff must circulate around the playground and be proactive in seeking and intercepting unsuitable play and acknowledge positive play.

Children must abide by the school rules and the playtime/lunchtime rules.

Playground Rules

- Play suitable games - be aware of younger children
- Don't leave the playground without permission.
- Use the time to go to the toilet, have a drink and fruit snack
- When the whistle blows, all children will stand still

Lunchtime Rules

Listen to the adults

Use good manners

Never swap food

Clear up after yourself

Have quiet conversations

Staff must be aware of the behaviour policy and its rewards and sanctions.

Usually the children are encouraged to go outside in wet weather (much fun can be had playing in the rain). However, in particularly severe weather the children will remain in the classrooms, when classroom rules apply.

What do we learn in break-time?

The children learn that to stay healthy they need to exercise, have fresh air and natural light, fresh fruit, a drink of water and go to the toilet regularly.

They learn to socialise with children of all ages and build friendships with their peers.

They develop their social skills learning to co-operate, turn-take, share and care for others.

They learn to use a variety of small apparatus developing their physical skills.

They learn a variety of playground games and organise them independently.



We care. We learn. We achieve.

How do we measure success in playtimes?

Break-times are successful if the children have come in from break happy and fulfilled. Disagreements will inevitably occur on occasion, but are considered successful if the children resolve their own differences, offer apologies and forgive one another. Any 'fallings out' are resolved as quickly as possible.

Resources

The Playground Leaders are responsible for getting out and putting away the equipment from the shed.

There are a wide range of resources for the pupils to utilise at lunch-times. These range from skipping ropes, hula-hoops, stilts, throwing and catching games. There are also a number marked zones for specific running and jumping games. There is a specific football area on the playground along with basketball and an area for wheelies.

On the field there is outdoor gym equipment which caters for eight children at a time, in each of the three areas.

The field itself is a resource. Used in good weather it allows space for running, and ball games.

Safety & Risk

Risk assessments are made for all outdoor equipment annually by outside professionals, quarterly by the site manager and on a regular basis by staff- who make dynamic risk assessments dependent on things such as prevailing weather conditions.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Information gathered from the Site Manager and staff is shared with the leadership team and to the Health and Safety governor.

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Next Review date: November 2025

Ratified by the Local Governing Body: December 2023