



11th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Castle Academy, we value outdoor learning as a fundamental aspect of the quality learning experiences that we provide at school. Through our commitment to learning both inside and outside the classroom, we are able to teach children that learning occurs everywhere, and at all times.

Outdoor learning is a broad term that includes outdoor play (learning through play), school grounds projects, environmental education, recreational and adventure activities, personal and social development, and much more!

High-quality outdoor learning provides children with the opportunities to:

- develop reflective and inquisitive thinking along with problem-solving approaches in 'real' situations
- encourage holistic development of children
- develop resilience and adaptability in occasionally adverse circumstances
- allow children to become more able to identify hazards and risks
- develop a love, appreciation and respect for nature and all that is living
- develop an understanding of how we can look after our environment
- develop self-awareness, confidence and self-esteem
- develop collaborative-working and communication skills
- provide positive health benefits – both physically and mentally – and assist gross and fine-motor development
- develop a lifelong love of the outdoors

Children in FS2 and Year 1 will participate in Outdoor Learning every Tuesday afternoon whatever the weather and your child will get dirty!

Please ensure that your child has the following clothing to change into each Tuesday:

- A change of shoes (waterproof walking boots or wellingtons are ideal)
- Warm socks
- A warm coat – preferably waterproof
- A jumper or fleece
- A t-shirt
- Trousers – jogging bottoms/leggings (not jeans)
- Waterproof over-trousers if possible
- An extra layer of clothing depending on the weather

Please write your child's name on each item of their clothing.

Children will come home in their Outdoor Learning clothing unless they are attending an after school club.

Should you have any questions or require any further information, please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Miss Goodyear.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Cope

FS2/Year 2 Class Teacher

Pupil Dispositions Champion

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