

At Hamstel Infant School and Nursery we understand that the outside world supports children of all ages and abilities to connect to their learning. We provide all children with the opportunity to explore and investigate the environment safely and in a respectful manner. We seek to inspire their natural curiosity and respect of the outdoor environment.



INTENT—We aim...

For every child to learn about the **natural world** through a variety of **sensory experiences** within nature.

For every child to have the opportunity to **explore** their immediate **school environment** as well as their surrounding local area.

For every child to develop **respect** and **responsibility** of our school environment, the local areas and living things.

For children to foster **resilience, risk-taking, trust** and **confidence** whilst nurturing a life-long love of the outdoors.

For children to have the opportunity to make links between **different subjects** outside of the classroom.

To provide the children with **enrichment** opportunities to enhance their **cultural capital**.

IMPLEMENTATION—How do we achieve our aims?

At Hamstel Infant School and Nursery we want to ensure all children have a wide range of experiences and opportunities to access the natural world around our school environment and within our local community. We strive to achieve this in a variety of ways whilst developing fundamental skills that support all children's learning in the classroom and their well-being.

ENRICHMENT: 50 THINGS

At Hamstel Infant School and Nursery we want to ensure all children have access to a wide range of **outdoor experiences**. As part of our commitment for all children to have access and opportunities to a variety of experiences beyond the classroom, we have devised our progressive document that outlines **50 key activities** that we believe all children should experience before they leave KS1. These activities will enable the children to have more of an awareness of the wider environment as well as access to provision and activities they may not otherwise experience.

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OUTDOOR LEARNING

We believe outdoor learning is an important aspect of our extended curriculum for all children. Where relevant we link aspects of our themes and curriculum to our outdoor learning days within the natural environment. We allocate a **day a week every 3 weeks** for each year group and our Inclusion Bases. The children come to school in appropriate clothing to allow full access to their learning experiences whatever the weather.



Through the outdoor learning days, we promote our **school values** by providing the children will opportunities to care for and explore our school pond, our allotment areas and natural habitats for insects, birds and animals that have taken residence.

By providing these enrichment experiences in a safe environment all children have the opportunity to develop a variety of skills that include **social interactions, collaborative team work, risk-taking, resilience and independence**.

ECO SCHOOLS

The **Eco Committee** is formed of children from Year 1 and Year 2. We aim to develop three main areas—**Litter, Marine and Waste**. We share Eco Schools actions and news in school assemblies and plan stand alone lessons to raise awareness of ongoing ecological issues, such as plastic pollution and wasting food.



THEME BASED LEARNING



Our developed outdoor areas enrich our curriculum further by giving **hands-on experiences** that link to subjects such as **Science, Geography, DT, Art and PSHE**. This includes growing plants, making observations within nature and about the seasons, whilst developing key skills of our values as a school.

Our **Hamstel Headlines** drive our commitment to all children receiving quality first teaching in outdoor learning.

OUR LOCAL AREA

At Hamstel Infant School and Nursery we have strong links with our community to support and broaden our children's environmental experiences and knowledge that also support our rich curriculum.

We are fortunate to have access to other **contrasting environments** such as the **local beach** and **parks** where all children can make connections and have a variety of opportunities which are hands on.



ORACY AND VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

At Hamstel we believe that **oracy** is a powerful tool for learning. Through outdoor learning experiences we empower children to understand themselves, each other and the world around them. We explicit teach oracy skills through outdoor learning sessions to ensure all children **deepen their subject knowledge** and understanding by **learning through talk and to talk**. Developing children's **vocabulary** plays an important role in their outdoor learning experiences. It provides opportunities to revise previously learnt vocabulary as well as build new vocabulary linked to the natural world putting it into a visual context for children. It also allows children to pose their own questions in a relaxed environment whilst making observations and talking about their natural world.



IMPACT—How will we know we have achieved our aims?

All children will have the opportunity to experience the **natural world** beyond the indoor classroom.

All children will have explored our school environment and our local area. They will have a **deeper understanding** of the **outdoors**.

For all children to have **respect** and show **responsibility** for the local environment, local area and living things

All children are **resilient, independent** and **confident** to take **risks safely**. They will have age appropriate skills in the outdoors.

All children will be able to make **links** to relevant areas to their curriculum learning, applying key skills and vocabulary.

All children will have a **richer awareness** of the wider local environment and will be able to **talk confidently** about their enriched learning and experiences.

