

Peter Pan Playgroup Outdoor Play Policy

At Peter Pan Playgroup, all children will be given the opportunity to play outside throughout the session whatever the weather. We believe it to be an essential component of young children's learning and development. Children must be allowed to experience the world around them in a full, messy, muddy, wet environment if they are to make useful meaning of it.

It is important that you dress your child for Playgroup appropriately for all weather conditions and provide a set of spare clothing:

- When it's cold and wet: warm clothes, a waterproof coat/rainsuit and wellington boots - we can provide a small number of waterproof rainsuits for persistent rainy days.
- When it's warm and sunny: suitable clothing and footwear (preferably wellington boots or 'Crocs' clogs – no footwear with laces or buckles please), covering the toes to enable children to move freely but safely when outside. Soles need to grip and be secure on the child's foot. NO FLIP FLOPS or similar sandals. All children will need to be provided with a sun hat which must be clearly labelled with your child's name (we can provide sun hats if your child does not have one). We can provide sunscreen (at least sun factor SPF 30+ with a UVA star rating of 4/5) which we will ask parents to give written permission for, but should you wish to provide your own then this should be given to a member of staff at the beginning of the session clearly labelled with your child's name, and should be in date, at least a sun factor of SPF30+ with a UVA star rating of 4/5.

Children get wet, dirty and messy when they play outside. We teach children how to minimise how messy they get and they do get better at this as they get older, but it is part of their learning and development – you cannot expect them not to get messed up playing with mud/wet sand.

Getting wet does not cause us to catch a cold. If the cold virus is around, we will pick it up regardless of whether we are wet or dry.