

Early Help Offer

Through adventure and play we aim to make a positive difference to children and young people through promoting their personal development, building positive relationships and raising aspirations.

With a highly skilled Playwork Team, superb facilities and the support of the local community we provide a context where children can grow and develop physically, mentally and socially.

The Playground is for children and families between the ages of 8 and 13 years but other younger and older children may attend up to the age of 17 years. Children under 8 years **must** be accompanied by a responsible adult over the age of 18 years.

We recognise the importance of effective early help to achieve better outcomes for children and families through resolving problems before they become overwhelming and require high cost, reactive services.

Our Offer

Children and young people between the ages of 6-13 years can be referred to the Playground by a range of partners but principally by schools and social care. Before any referrals are made, a visit to the playground to see what resources are available **will be required**. This will need to be agreed and arranged with the provider (be it school or social care services) and the Lead Playworker before any sessions are agreed and commence. The visit to the playground will provide an opportunity for the needs and outcomes of the intended referral to be discussed by the referring agency and a potential Playworker staff member to be allocated to take on the referred child and plan a bespoke programme. In the case that the child's needs are not suited to the allocated Playworker, this can be changed accordingly and agreed by all involved.

The playground holds their own generic risk assessment for one-to-one sessions however, a risk assessment for each referred child will need to be completed by the referring agency and sent back along with any completed referrals.

At present, we offer **one two-hour session per one child once a week**.

These sessions will be on set days and set times which will be indicated on the referral form for selection. Providers can access a maximum of **one term** (10 to 12 sessions, term-time only) which will be reviewed on conclusion and recommendations made to the provider moving forward.

If one or both parties feel that an extended term is required, this will require a re-referral however, this will be subject to availability as there may be a waiting list for other pending referrals which we may like to allocate first choice to.

Contrastingly, if we feel our intervention was not suited in achieving the desired outcomes for the child, we may recommend another intervention from another provider if available.

Agreed referrals will be subject to staff capacity. In some circumstances, we may have to refuse a potential referral or recommend a different time than what is preferred, if we do not have enough staff to cover. All Playworker staff are committed to Continuous Professional Development, however

there will be limitations as to what support can be given particularly if a child has many additional needs that require specialist support. The playground reserves the right to refuse a referral in circumstances where staff are not qualified in supporting a child with certain additional needs and that could potentially be a health and safety concern. In this case, this will be fed back to the provider to explain reasons for the refused referral and some recommendations may be given. For any referral, any additional needs that a child has, such as emotional or behavioural challenges, will need to be listed on the referral form to ensure the right support is given and that our Playworker staff are competent to handle each child's needs.

Our Early Help Offer is reviewed regularly and can be reassessed to extend further support to referrals over the course of time.

Our indoor and outdoor environments enable us to provide the following:

Type of play	Resources/ Activities	Outcome
Physical play	Aerial runway Trampoline basket ball Climbing frames /ladders hanging bars Self-Build/nets Ravine swing Sling Shot Spring Board Dutch Disk Oyster & Dish Roundabout Accessible Roundabout Cutter Swing Football Dalben Tower/Slides	Confidence Self-awareness Physical development, cardiovascular, agility ,strength, including motor skills Problem solving Interpersonal and social skills ,communication ,cooperation, compromise, negotiation and interaction Fine motor skills (writing ready)
Creative play	Model making Painting and drawing Cutting and pasting Pottery /clay building blocks	Hand eye coordination Decision making Discipline and boundaries

WISBECH ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND

	Pots and pans Common household items for imitating activities (cleaning, cooking etc.)	Expanding imagination Exploring risk and taking responsibility Independence Enjoyment
Messy play	Water and sand Mud	
Sensory play	Sensory garden Gardening tools Sensory blocks etc.	
Structured learning	Play barge space for curriculum teaching and learning	
Construction	Fully equipped workshop with hand tools and building materials Loose parts (tyres, pipes, etc.)	
Imaginative play	Dressing up clothes Face paints Props box (toys, objects and props)	

Policies and procedures

The Wisbech Adventure Playground is managed by Cambridgeshire County Council. We fully recognise our responsibility under section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to have arrangements in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. All playworkers have full CRB /DBS checks. Our full range of policies and procedure including Safeguarding and Child protection are available on request.

Charges

The playground is an open access site which offers play provision for children and young people age 8-13 years. Children under the age of 8 years must be accompanied by a parent /carer over the age of 18 years. Playworkers are on site at set hours from Tuesday – Saturday.

Charges for individual, group and family support are:

Activity	Charge*
Universal	Free
One to one playworker support - if a child is unaccompanied by an adult a second playworker will be required at an additional cost.	£40 per hour per playworker**

*charges may be subject to change

** As of 1st September 2022, the price per hour per playworker will be increasing.

Schools are able to use their pupil premium and sports premium (see outcomes 1, 2 and 4) to support the referral of children and young people to the Playground.

Contact

For further information or to arrange a visit to the playground to discuss a potential referral please email: Wisbech Adventure Playground WAP@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

This Early Help Offer reviewed and updated: 08/11/2022

Next review date: 08/11/2024