



Ashfield Nursery School Outdoor Curriculum

At Ashfield Nursery School, we believe that the great outdoors is a powerful and inspiring learning environment. Set within extensive gardens teeming with trees and nature, our outdoor provision is truly exceptional. From our enchanting fairy garden and secret hideaways to our thriving allotments and fragrant herb garden, children are immersed in a world of discovery, and that's just the beginning! One Ofsted inspector described our outdoor space as "like playing in a sweet shop" and "a magical haven that sparks curiosity and amazement."

A World of Exploration and Discovery

We are passionate about fostering a love for outdoor learning, where children can develop their curiosity, creativity, resilience, and problem-solving skills. Our outdoor environment supports all areas of early development, offering rich, hands-on experiences that nurture confidence and independence.

How Outdoor Learning Supports Development:

- **Personal, Social & Emotional Development:** Encouraging teamwork, sharing, turn taking, and empathy towards others.
- **Communication & Language:** Engaging in conversations, expressing needs, and developing listening and responding skills.
- **Physical Development:** Running, climbing, balancing, pedalling, and taking safe risks to build strength and coordination.
- **Mathematical Development:** Measuring, counting, constructing, and comparing in practical, real-world contexts.
- **Understanding the World:** Exploring nature through gardening, seasonal changes, water play, and wildlife observation.
- **Expressive Arts & Design:** Encouraging creativity through dance, music, imaginative role-play, and large-scale outdoor art projects.

An Outdoor Haven for Little Adventurers

Our exceptional outdoor provision includes a mud kitchen, digging pit, sand tray, climbing frame, staged area, and natural wicker structures. Children love riding bikes in our open spaces, and our small hill is perfect for rolling down with delight. These spaces provide endless opportunities for active, exploratory play in a safe and stimulating environment.

Children access the outdoors every day, in all seasons and most weather conditions. We provide appropriate outdoor clothing, including waterproofs and wellington boots, ensuring that rain or shine, our little learners can enjoy the magic of nature.

At Ashfield Nursery School, we believe that outdoor learning is not just an extension of the classroom—it is a vital part of a child's early years' experience. Our garden is a place where imaginations run wild, friendships blossom, and lifelong learning begins.