**Kingsmeadows Nursery (Peebles) Ltd**

**Outdoor Play Policy**

At Kingsmeadows Nursery and K2 Out of School Club we recognise the importance, and value, placed on outdoor play and its role in children’s learning and physical development. Outdoor play provides opportunities for children to develop their large and small muscles, experience a different environment from the indoors and have access to sunlight, which supports absorption of Vitamin D in the body.

As part of our daily routine all children will have the opportunity to explore the settings' large outdoor learning environment, including our woodland areas, and will participate in planned/free choice learning activities regardless of the weather.

Where possible and appropriate, we make outdoor activities accessible to children of all ages and abilities to ensure inclusive use of our gardens and woodland areas.

Parents/carers are required to provide suitable clothing for all weathers such as sun hats for the warmer months, and hats, gloves, coats and welly boots for the colder weather. Preferably we ask for all children to have either an all in one waterproof suit or waterproof bottoms with a suitable coat.

Staff are also encouraged to wear suitable and protective clothing and to enthusiastically facilitate a range of outdoor activities in all weathers.

We ensure all areas are safe and secure through close supervision and the use of robust risk assessments and safety checks. Where possible and appropriate, we plan and encourage play that helps children understand and manage risks. This type of play allows children to explore, find and extend their own boundaries in a safe environment with supportive practitioners.

Reviewed January 2022