



Garden policy

Statement of intent:

Lasona Kindergarten values outdoor learning to a great extent. We are of the opinion that the outdoors enable children to make choices and decisions and therefore strengthen their independence and responsibilities.

Lasona Kindergarten appreciates that children cannot be shielded from risks at all times. We believe that by helping children realise their own risks they can learn from the consequences of their actions.

Aim:

Lasona Kindergarten aims to

- demonstrate respect for the natural environment
- provide opportunities for direct involvement with the natural environment
- attend to safety and comfort for all children under our care.

Method:

- Depending on the weather, staff will decide when it is best to go outside for comfortable and stimulating play in the garden.
- It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure for appropriate clothing and foot wear depending on the weather.
- Staff is aware of the size of the garden and supervises all play areas.
- Children are never to be unsupervised in the garden area.
- A trained first aider has to be present at all times.
- Garden rules have to be introduced to children and adults.
- Staff will ensure for a stimulating garden area and play time with the opportunity for healthy risk taking.
- The garden area will offer a variety of social spaces for different sized groups.
- Lasona Kindergarten will provide a variety of activities and tools to invite for interactions with the natural environment.
- The garden area includes spaces and objects, which children can use for creative play.
- Lasona Kindergarten will avoid unnecessary destruction of the natural environment of the garden
- Children will be encouraged to take proper care of living things.
- Lasona Kindergarten is proud to present its own vegetable and flower garden, which is a focus point all year round.
- Risk assessments of the garden area will be evaluated frequently and measures will be taken according to the outcome of the assessment.
- Once a child has been picked up, the responsibility for the child lies by the parent/carer.
- If siblings accompany parents for pick up, these should not disrupt the garden play of children in our care.