

Cullercoats Primary School Play Policy (OPAL) – Summary

At Cullercoats Primary School, we are committed to prioritising play in all decisions affecting our children. Play is essential for children’s physical, emotional, social, and intellectual development, and we strive to provide a high-quality, inclusive, and stimulating play environment.



Why Play Matters

- Play supports children’s well-being, creativity, and learning.
- It encourages independence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.
- Play enhances resilience, confidence, and a healthy lifestyle.

Our Commitment to Play

- We provide diverse and engaging play settings.
- Children are encouraged to take reasonable risks to support learning and development.
- Play is supervised in a way that promotes exploration and independence.
- The school follows OPAL’s best practices to continuously improve play opportunities.

Risk & Safety

- Play involves managed risks that help children learn and grow.
- We follow national guidelines to balance safety with the benefits of play.
- Staff facilitate play rather than direct it, ensuring children remain safe while exploring.

Inclusion & Equal Opportunities

- Our play provision is accessible to all children, regardless of ability, background, or circumstances.
- We recognise and uphold every child’s right to play, as stated in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

By fostering a rich play environment, we aim to develop a love of learning through exploration, creativity, and active engagement.

For more details, refer to the full OPAL Play Policy.