

Key information:

- We are experienced playworkers, facilitating play in a park or other outdoor space.
- Children are welcome to join us but we are not responsible for them.
- We bring resources to an empty space to enhance children's play experiences.
- We support children's play with positive intervention around conflict resolution and a risk benefit approach if we need to.
- We set up in public spaces often without facilities e.g. toilets, so you will need to tell your child what to do if they need to go to the toilet.
- We often have fruit, savoury snacks and water with us to share with children if they want them.
- We are first aid trained.



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Open access play sessions



What does open access mean?

We operate on an open access basis, this means that **children are free to come and go as they please**. We don't sign children in or out.

We are **not a childcare provider** so children are responsible for themselves. Those **aged 8 and over can come alone** if they are allowed by their parent/carer to play out without their supervision. **Under 8's need to have an adult with them.**

If a child is hurt or troubled or any issues arise, we will take appropriate action. We will telephone parents/carers in the case of any emergency we become aware of. This is why we try to take contact details of the children who join us to play.

We also take contact details for our funding records, the funding that helps to keep sessions running. We will keep your data for 1 year from the last session attended. If you wish to know more, please ask to see our privacy policy.

What we do & why:

Our role is to facilitate more play in the community and get children playing freely outside - children often feel more confident to play out with friendly adults around.

When play ranger services first started, consultation told us that fear rather than a lack of suitable places is often the reason children don't play outside.

Children can have concerns about being bullied or intimidated so they want safe spaces to play and someone to talk to if they are feeling worried or sad about anything.

Parents/carers are often worried about their children's safety too so they don't always let their children play out.

The play ranger service was started to help with both children's wishes to play out more and parents/carers worries.

Children's choice in play is really important, that is why they are encouraged to use the session in the way that they choose.

Some children will stay and play for the whole time, others will dip in and out of the things on offer whilst they are out and about with their friends.

Every child and family is different, so it's up to parents/carers to decide whether their over 8s are ready to play out unsupervised by them.

If you are not comfortable with your child (over 8s) freely coming and going then you're welcome to join us too.

