

Support children and young people when travelling outside the playwork setting

Overview

This standard outlines the support required to enable children and young people to travel outside the playwork setting. It also covers the general considerations that should be taken when planning travel arrangements.

The main outcome of this standard is:

1. support the arrival, travel and departure of children and young people

Maintaining the health and safety of children when they are travelling outside the playwork setting is an important duty for many playworkers. This standard is for staff that do not have full responsibility for the playwork setting but make a significant contribution to supporting play.

This standard is underpinned by the Playwork Principles and playworkers must be familiar with these and, where possible, demonstrate them through their practice and reflection.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Support the arrival, travel and departure of children and young people

1. gather **information** about the children and young people
2. communicate arrival and departure arrangements to **others**
3. check that parental consent has been obtained and all relevant belongings required for the travel are present
4. greet and welcome children, young people and **others**
5. respond to any **issues** that may arise that may affect the travel
6. check the route and **mode of transport** are suitable for safe and playful travel for children and young people
7. inform children, young people and **others** of the destination, route and **mode of transport**
8. agree with children and young people ways to keep themselves and their belongings safe during travel
9. take account of the needs of children and young people and offer help, when necessary
10. follow legal and organisational policies and procedures to check that all children and young people have been accounted for before, during and after travel
11. make time for winding down and departure

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Support the arrival, travel and departure of children and young people

1. the Playwork Principles within the professional and ethical framework for playwork and how each of the principles can be applied within your own role
2. the types of **information** that needs to be gathered about the children and young people
3. when and how to communicate arrival and departure arrangements to **others** and the importance of doing so
4. why it is important that parental consent has been obtained
5. the factors involved in deciding what relevant belongings are required for the travel
6. ways of greeting and welcoming children, young people and **others**
7. the types of **issues** that may arise, in relation to travel, and how to respond to them
8. why it is important to inform children, young people and **others** of the destination, route and **mode of transport**
9. how and why you need to check the route and **mode of transport** are suitable for safe and playful travel for children and young people
10. how and why you need to agree with children and young people ways to keep themselves and their belongings safe during travel
11. the types of **help** that children and young people need whilst travelling
12. legal and organisational policies and procedures to follow before, during and after travel
13. the importance of winding down and what constitutes adequate time for doing so

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Scope/range related Information

to performance criteria

1. personal
2. emergency contacts
3. medical
4. additional needs
5. permissions
6. consent
7. access arrangements and or restrictions for collection

Others

1. parents and or carers
2. staff
3. other visitors

Issues (*minimum 4 out of 9*)

1. illness
2. accidents
3. mechanical
4. missing children and young people
5. loss of belongings
6. weather
7. unexpected route changes
8. behaviour
9. miscommunication

Modes of transport

1. on foot
2. by public transport
3. by private transport

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Scope/range related to knowledge and understanding

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Others

1. parents and or carers
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Modes of transport

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Help

1. emotional
2. physical
3. behavioural

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- 4. medical
- 5. communication

Values

The Playwork practitioners involved in writing this standard, in conjunction with SkillsActive, have agreed to adopt the following as the set of values prescribed for all of those working within the playwork sector:

Playwork Principles

These Principles establish the professional and ethical framework for playwork and as such must be regarded as a whole. They describe what is unique about play and playwork, and provide the playwork perspective for working with children and young people. They are based on the recognition that children and young people's capacity for positive development will be enhanced if given access to the broadest range of environments and play opportunities.

1. All children and young people need to play. The impulse to play is innate. Play is a biological, psychological and social necessity, and is fundamental to the healthy development and wellbeing of individuals and communities.
2. Play is a process that is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated. That is, children and young people determine and control the content and intent of their play, by following their own instincts, ideas and interests, in their own way for their own reasons.
3. The prime focus and essence of playwork is to support and facilitate the play process and this should inform the development of play policy, strategy, training and education.
4. For playworkers, the play process takes precedence and playworkers act as advocates for play when engaging with adult led agendas.
5. The role of the playworker is to support all children and young people in the creation of a space in which they can play.
6. The playworker's response to children and young people playing is based on a sound up to date knowledge of the play process, and reflective practice.
7. Playworkers recognise their own impact on the play space and also the impact of children and young people's play on the playworker.

8. Playworkers choose an intervention style that enables children and young people to extend their play. All playworker intervention must balance risk with the developmental benefit and wellbeing of children.

The Playwork Principles are held in trust for the UK playwork profession by the Scrutiny Group that acted as an honest broker overseeing the consultations through which they were developed.

Glossary

Playwork setting

Somewhere children and young people have the opportunity to play that is staffed by playworkers

Play space

A place formed by children and young people playing. It can be physical, affective, permanent, transient or cyber

Staff

This covers those with whom you work, for whom you are responsible, paid and or unpaid, or students and or trainees

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