



### **Characteristics of 'Adventurous Learning'**

- The children are engaged in purposeful activities for which they feel a real sense of ownership
- Outdoor adventures which engage all of the senses and develop fitness are actively encouraged
- Children may experience a range of emotions and part of the learning is understanding these and developing strategies to manage them
- The children progressively get to know the grounds, local hills, valleys, footpaths, canal and river on foot so they both experience and understand the local landscape and its characteristics, as well as the local wild life
- Staff and children learn how to embrace elements of risk and uncertainty and to sensibly push boundaries
- Staff plan physical and mental challenges that are pitched very slightly beyond the 'comfort zone' and which may include surprising elements
- We promote 'free-range play' activities such as den-making and tree climbing and create a more adventurous play environment in the school grounds
- We encourage intellectual challenges such staying with difficult concepts that initially seems mysterious and difficult until their meaning becomes clear
- We praise children for being adventurous and showing determination and flexibility
- We have 'students' who want to find things out not 'pupils' being taught'



### **Characteristics of 'Playful Learning'**

- Humour and inventiveness are used to engage and motivate children and create a relaxed learning environment
- We create a safe, trusting, non-judgemental and inclusive atmosphere where children learn to take sensible risks and develop confidence
- Imagination and creativity are used to weave 'magic' into learning activities
- Adults sensitively observe, listen and interact with the children
- We promote creativity at the same time as high expectations and clear standards
- Lessons are planned with space for the unexpected and for child initiated diversions
- Lessons are planned with the criteria 'Would I enjoy taking part in this lesson?'
- Choice is offered to children when responding to and presenting their learning
- There is freer access to materials and resources
- The school environment promotes playfulness and creativity through decoration and displays.