

17th May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL)

We are reviewing our OPAL provision this term and hope to continue developing the play opportunities we can offer our children across the Academy.

Please could you help us with the following;

Wellies and Raincoats

Even though we have headed into warmer months, we still require children to have a coat, even if this is a small raincoat in their bag. We will be continuing to go outside to play even if it is raining but this is made difficult if children do not have a coat. For children to access all areas of the site we also require them to have a pair of named wellies, there are welly sheds onsite for all children to store their wellies in depending on their year. Some areas of the site still do get muddy with these heavy showers, but we still encourage exploration and play if children are sensible and appropriately clothed.

OPAL Resources

Do you have anything that you could donate? Loose parts are a big part of continuing OPAL play and keeping a vast range of appropriate things children can play with is a never-ending job. Any help you can give would be great.

This can include things like:

- carpet samples, rugs
- cardboard boxes
- brief cases, suitcases
- pots and pans, ladle's, spoons, sieves and other kitchen accessories
- keyboards, old telephones etc.
- push chairs
- tarpaulins
- pallets
- plastic crates/ boxes
- Plastic pipes or guttering
- Old wooden tables or chairs

Things you may be thinking of throwing away could become an excellent addition to our playtimes!

We would also welcome any donations of any old, spare wellies and waterproof clothing, as spares for children to use if needed.

If you have anything that you would like to donate, please bring it to the Academy office. We will check all donated equipment before it is accepted for OPAL use, but we would be grateful if you could make sure any donations are clean and have no sharp edges.

Many thanks,

Brookside Academy