

Play Alloa aims to:

1. Extend the choice and control that children, young people and adults have over their play/ social experiences, the freedom they enjoy and the satisfaction they gain
2. Recognise everyone's need to test boundaries and respond positively to that need.
3. Manage the balance between the need to offer risk and the need to keep people safe from harm.
4. Maximise the range of play and social opportunities.
5. Foster independence and self esteem.
6. Foster people's respect for others and offer opportunities for social interaction.
7. Foster an individual's wellbeing, healthy growth and development, knowledge and understanding, creativity and capacity to learn.



Costs

As Play Alloa is funded by a number of 1 to 3 year grants, we rely heavily on local fundraising and session fees to ensure the continuity of our service.

We, therefore, ask for a £5 donation for each session.

We would ask you to complete a Gift Aid Form (in each parent pack) if you are a tax payer as we can recover the tax on any donation you make in the future.

Your support for ongoing fundraising activities is also greatly appreciated.



Loose Parts Play



Contact us for more information

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Play Alloa: Providing a range of play and social opportunities for children, young people and adults with disabilities and additional support needs from across Clackmannanshire.

Play Alloa is a registered Scottish Charity (SCO23344) and a Registered Charitable Company (379003).

Play Alloa

Play Alloa aims to create a varied and interesting environment that stimulates social, physical, creative, emotional and intellectual play for everyone especially those with disabilities and additional support needs.

Our 4 main aims are:

1. To provide a range of services for children, young people and adults with disabilities and additional support needs
2. To provide respite for families and carers
3. To promote inclusion in the community
4. To support the carers of tomorrow via our volunteering/work experience programme

Our setting includes the provision of open space, music, art and craft and a range of objects and materials (loose parts) that can be selected to develop ones own play/social experience.

Accessing our Service

In order to secure a place within the Play Alloa, service self referrals can be made by any parent/ carer, or individual, who feels that their son/ daughter, or they, would benefit from a supported environment in which to develop safe and social connections within their own community.

Parents/carers and individuals should contact the office in the first instance. A registration form will be issued and is required to be completed. Once a session place has been identified parents/ carers/individuals are invited to attend the group in question for a short 1hr accompanied (if required) visit. After this a session start date will be issued.

Referrals can also be made by Education, Health or Social Services with the permission of families.

Once a referral form has been received we will contact the family/individual directly.

Play Alloa supports the principles of Loose Parts Play allowing children and young people the opportunity to explore the world, use their imagination and discover their own skills and limitations through exploring, building, creating and having fun.

What is Loose Parts Play ?

Loose Parts Play is free play that uses various materials that do not have a finite use (and therefore don't define what the play will be). Objects can be manipulated, moved and combined to create a variety of play experiences.

Loose Parts Play is completely child led and can enhance the child's experience giving them unrestricted opportunities to play.

How does Play Alloa encourage Loose Parts Play ?

We provide a variety of indoor and outdoor resources and materials, including:

- A range of areas where the children can freely write, draw and create eg. art and craft tables, Lego Wall, outdoor chalk board, floor toys etc
- Tuff Trays: height adjustable play trays for use with water, sand, play mats, paint, gloop, slime, construction materials, small play figures etc
- Wooden pallets, netting, guttering, cardboard, tyres; that can be used to build, create and construct on a larger scale
- Floor Toys; train sets, lego, cars, dolls etc
- Art & Craft Tables; providing a selection of loose parts which can be used for building and creating
- A selection of Natural Resources which can be used to create, experience and touch
- Loose Parts Storage Area containing useful materials and tools
- Cable Rolls, Tyres, Pipes, Shower Curtains, Fabric, Wood, Pipes, Guttering, Sticks etc
- Mud kitchen, Wigwam and Play House and other areas for play

What are the benefits of Loose Parts Play ?

There are many benefits to Loose Parts Play, including:

- Being more able to meet the child's individual needs
- Meeting Sensory Needs
- Developing conflict resolution skills
- Encouraging the child to challenge themselves
- Developing Interpersonal communication and team building skills
- Encouraging imagination and creativity
- Maximising the opportunity for accessing play
- Understanding there are no limits in relation to play
- Being Adaptable and Inclusive
- Encouraging freedom of expression
- Building confidence
- Being Active and Educational
- Encouraging freedom and choice to play their own way
- Improving social skills, developing friendships and teamwork
- Doesn't always require verbal communication
- Encouraging problem solving, focus and control
- Promoting independence and self esteem
- Building resilience

Play Alloa believe that ALL children have the right to play and socialise in an age appropriate and inclusive way. We follow the principles of Play Theory (see Play Theory Leaflet) and encourage all children to play without limits or restrictions due to their age, stage, gender or cognitive/physical ability.