



**ST CHARLES' CATHOLIC**  
**PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**PLAYGROUND**  
**POLICY**

<b><u>PLAYGROUND POLICY</u></b>	
<b><u>AGREED: SEPTEMBER 2015</u></b>	<b><u>NEXT REVIEW: SEPTEMBER 2017</u></b>

## St Charles' Catholic Primary School Playground Rules

### Introduction

Every child has the right to enjoy a positive outdoor play experience. Outdoor play should be adequately supervised. Children should feel safe. Children should not be coerced into games. For children to feel safe; adults on duty need to be respected and their instructions followed. The environment should be enjoyed and treated respectfully.

Playground rules:

1. Children need to be respectful and take care of one another in the playground.
2. Adults on duty must be listened to and their instructions followed.
3. **STOP means STOP!**
4. Play equipment is to be treated respectfully and with care.
5. Outdoor clothing needs to be kept on in cool or cold weather. In warm weather, the child should ask permission to take their jumper in.
6. No child leaves the playground without the teacher's consent.

These rules are designed to promote:

- A calm and orderly school environment
- Safety
- Equality and fairness

All the rules are for a good reason!

### **Before School**

All pupils and parents assemble at the gate. Pupils and parents should be aware that this area is a functioning car park for staff and so caution is advised.

The teacher will be on the playground at 8.40am and joined by LSAs at 8.45am. The bell goes at 8:55am. One member of staff will be at the gate. Remaining members of staff are distributed between the KS1 playground and KS2 playground. No ball games are permitted before school.

In very bad weather, the member of staff on duty at the gate will usher the children inside the building. They are expected to walk to class and choose a calm activity to be agreed with individual class teachers e.g. talk, read a book, colouring. Remaining staff will be distributed between the KS1 corridor and the KS2 corridor. Year 6 prefects will be on duty.

<b>Can</b>	<b>Can't</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Come inside to use the toilet with permission.	Come into classrooms or cloakroom (unless bad weather or under adult supervision)	Fire regulation - we need to know who is in the building at all times
Talk to their friends. Play chasing games. Use the play equipment. Play any games like hopscotch, clapping games etc that do not involve balls.	Play with footballs. Play fight or wrestle.	Dangerous
Walk their scooters/ bikes slowly and carefully into the bike shed.	Ride their scooter or bike along the passage or on the playground.	Safety of others in the playground
	Leave belongings on the floor.	Belongings cause a hazard if left
Use the play equipment (Climbing wall from left to right using holds only, KS1 trail from beginning to end)	Act in a silly or dangerous way on the equipment. Climb on tennis nets, goals, benches etc.	Dangerous
Take books or another creative activity outside.	May not have their own toys and games on the playground.	Potential for damage.

When the bell goes children should walk to the line. They should line up in single file without talking. Teachers will be on the playground to escort the class in. Children should hang their coats and bags up in the cloakroom and enter the classroom under the supervision of the adult

### At Playtime

Can	Can't	Reason
Play table tennis	Sit on or under the table tennis table.	Dangerous and can't be seen. There are alternative shaded areas and seating areas.
Play football (if it is your classes turn)	Use a hard leather ball or hard plastic ball	Very hard balls can hurt others if kicked too hard
Use the play equipment (Climbing wall from left to right using holds only, KS1 trail from beginning to end)	Act in a silly or dangerous way on the equipment. Climb on tennis nets, goals, benches etc.	Dangerous
	Play in the bushes or areas outside cloakrooms or out of the adults view	Dangerous and unhygienic.
Go to the toilet or for a drink with permission (this should be encouraged before the children go out)	Stay or play in the toilets	Unhygienic and could result in an accident
	Go into the building without permission	Adults on duty need to know where you are

Play chasing and tag games. Play on the tyres	Play fight or wrestle. Push one another from the tyres.	Dangerous.
Run and play on the grass if it is dry.	Run and play on the grass if wet.	Dangerous. Unhygienic. Children often trail mud into the building.
Take books or another creative activity outside.	May not have their own toys and games on the playground.	Potential for damage.

At the end of playtime the teacher will ring the bell. Children must stand still - and stop their game or conversation. Results of games must be forgotten.

On the second bell, children must walk to their line, line up in single file and walk into the building without talking. Once inside they must enter the classroom under the supervision of the adult.

#### **At Lunchtime**

<b>Can</b>	<b>Can't</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Play with skipping ropes	Tie or wrap skipping ropes around other children	Dangerous
Play football (if it is your classes turn)	Use a hard leather or hard plastic ball	Very hard balls can hurt others if kicked too hard
Use the play equipment (Climbing wall from left to right using holds only, KS1 trail from beginning to end)	Act in a silly or dangerous way on the equipment. Climb on tennis nets, goals, benches etc.	Dangerous
	Play in the bushes or areas outside cloakrooms or out of adults view	Dangerous

Go to the toilet or for a drink with permission (this should be encouraged before the children go out)	Stay or play in the toilets	Unhygienic and could result in an accident
Walk whilst inside the school.	Run inside the school.	Dangerous.
Play chasing and tag games.	Play fight or wrestle	Dangerous.
Run and play on the grass if it is dry.	Run and play on the grass if wet.	Children often trail mud into the building.

When the lunchtime staff call, the children should line up in single file without talking and walk through the school and into the dinner hall.

### **Wet Play**

Each class should have provision for Wet Play. This may include computers, board games, colouring etc. Some activities may be specifically for lunchtime due to the time involved in putting them away. It is expected that the children leave the learning environment in the state in which they found it, after wet play.

<b>Can</b>	<b>Can't</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Wander around the class, choosing activities and talking to friends.	Run, act silly or loudly; or play outdoor games.	Dangerous.
Use the facilities provided by the welfare staff and class teacher.	Walk away from a mess without tidying it up.	Dangerous.
Go to the toilet or for a drink with permission (this should be encouraged before the children lessons begin)	Stay or play in the toilets	Unhygienic and could result in an accident

Any child being kept in must be supervised by the teacher or LSA. For a child to be isolated as a punishment violates their human rights.

### **A Guide for On-Duty Staff**

- Try to move regularly from place to place. Make sure you visit all areas of the school building for which you are responsible to check children are safe.
- Do not stand talking to other supervisors or spend a long time with one group of children; try to talk to and engage with as many children as possible so that they get to know you and you are aware of anything untoward
- Expect children to be polite and responsive - we work by the code of treating others as we would expect to be treated ourselves.
- Avoid confrontation - always treat children with respect and have the expectation of being respected
- If it is a minor issue, just remind the children how they should behave; in a positive fashion. Raised voices should only have to be used in rare circumstances. Rather than using 'Don't...', try to remind children what they should be doing.
- Record incidents in writing when necessary.