

SKAPW40 - SQA Unit Code FT54 04

Manage the facilitation of open access play opportunities in public spaces



Overview

This unit is about managing the facilitation of open access play opportunities in parks and public open spaces. It involves identifying outdoor public spaces within which to work, as well as promoting, planning, delivering and monitoring provision to develop effective services.

The unit is divided into three parts. The first part describes the two things you have to do. These are:

1. identify and promote outdoor public spaces for supporting play
2. make preparations for planning and supporting play

The second part describes the knowledge and understanding you must have.

The third part gives some examples and explanations of some words we use in this unit.

This unit is for staff working with children, young people and the local community to support open access, inclusive outdoor play opportunities in public spaces e.g. play rangers, detached playworkers

This unit is underpinned by the Playwork Principles and staff must be familiar with these and committed to them in their practice.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Identify and promote outdoor public spaces for supporting play

- P1 identify the overall aims and goals of the provision
- P2 obtain relevant, accurate and current data on the community/area within which the provision is to be located
- P3 consult with community groups, local communities, children and young people and organisations to identify the areas where provision would be best located
- P4 communicate the purpose, values and methods of your area of work
- P5 present information in a language and style which is appropriate to the people involved
- P6 obtain feedback from people about the impact of the initiatives
- P7 use collected information and feedback to choose and promote the outdoor spaces suitable for open access play

You must be able to:

Make preparations for planning and supporting play

- P8 identify the preparations that need to be made before going into the play space
- P9 develop a plan which meets the needs of children in an open access context and covers the full range of preparation
- P10 consult on and promote the service to: children, young people and relevant community groups and organisations
- P11 support self directed play in a public space taking account of health and safety needs of children, young people, staff and helpers
- P12 follow the correct procedures for responding to incidents where play opportunities are happening in public open spaces
- P13 develop and implement plans to monitor and evaluate how well the facilitation of play in a public open space is working
- P14 manage the process of staff team moving on from one public space to another

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

For the Whole Unit

K1 how the Playwork Principles specifically relate to this unit

You need to know and understand:

Identify and promote outdoor public spaces for supporting play

- K2 the overall aims and goals of the provision and why these are important
- K3 the type of data which should be collected on the community/area within which the provision is to be located, including data on levels and types of anti-social behaviour
- K4 where and how to obtain data on the community /area within which the provision is to be located how to identify children and young people, relevant community groups, local communities and organisations for consultation
- K5 methods for consulting with children and young people, community groups and organisations
- K6 why it is important to promote children's right to play in public open spaces
- K7 types of opportunities which you could use to promote your work and how to use suitable ones
- K8 how to convey the benefits of open access play opportunities and how to adjust your communication according to the different types of audiences you may have to communicate with
- K9 why it is important to obtain feedback from children and young people, community groups and organisations and what to do with such feedback
- K10 how to use data, information and feedback to select outdoor spaces for open access play and establish baselines for evaluation

You need to know and understand:

Prepare, plan and support play

- K11 the types of preparations that need to be made before going into a play space
- K12 how to develop a plan that covers the full range of preparations that need to be made including:
 - K12.1 specific play opportunities
 - K12.2 site visits to map affordances and play value, fascination traps , play attractors
 - K12.3 risk / benefit analysis and assessment
 - K12.4 health safety and security procedures
 - K12.5 equipment and resources, including the additional ones needed to support open access play
 - K12.6 photo identification

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- K12.7 appropriate protective clothing
- K12.8 transport
- K12.9 cleaning of the play space after sessions
- K13 how to support self directed play in a public space taking into consideration:
 - K13.1 open access and fluctuating numbers
 - K13.2 varied age range
 - K13.3 parents and carers
 - K13.4 public
- K14 the range of hazards that may occur when children play in a public space
- K15 how to conduct dynamic risk/benefit assessment
- K16 the importance of ensuring the safety and welfare of children and young people in a public space and how to do so
- K17 the types of behaviour that should be discouraged in the play environment and how to do so within the limits of your job role
- K18 awareness of personal safety issues for members of staff and volunteers and how to maintain their safety
- K19 the procedures for responding to incidents in public space
- K20 how to encourage children to use the open space on a regular basis including: consistency of staffing and consultation with young people
- K21 how to monitor and evaluate the effect of the provision on the use of the play space
- K22 how to collect information on the type and frequency of use of the play space
- K23 the importance of accountability for the play provision
- K24 different ways for finding out about the type of play opportunities that are needed, barriers to play and strategies for overcoming them
- K25 how to manage the process of staff moving on from one public space to another
- K26 how to work with local communities to secure greater ownership of public spaces and child-friendly communities
- K27 how to identify people, organisations and methods which will sustain play opportunities in child-friendly communities for the longer term

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Additional Information

Glossary

Children and young people

All children and young people with respect for any impairment, their gender, race, culture, language, sexuality, health, economic or social status and any other individual characteristics

Play opportunities

Opportunities for children and young people to engage in self-directed, freely chosen play

Public spaces

Open, outdoor environments where children and young people can play such as: parks, playing fields, woodland areas and streets

Parents and Carers

All people with parental or caring responsibilities for children. Including primary and non-primary carers. This term should be taken to include all family members (including brothers and sisters) who may have caring responsibilities, wider family members, partners of parents and childminders or similar

Fascination trap

An area, object or concept that captures the interest and imagination of children and young people and draws them into play

Links to other NOS

This unit links closely with units SKAB226, SKAPW11, SKAPW14, SKAPW6, SKAPW7, SKAPW8, SKAPW9, SKAPW10

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