

SKAPW39 - SQA Unit Code FT53 04

Develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds



Overview

This unit is about developing, maintaining and sustaining adventure playgrounds and supporting children and young people in the design and build process.

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

1. work with tools and materials to design, construct and maintain structures in adventure playgrounds
2. support children and young people to create, develop and maintain ownership of adventure playgrounds
3. work with children, young people and the local neighbourhood to develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

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 and young people to design, construct and maintain structures in the play environment.

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

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Work with tools and materials to design, construct and maintain structures in adventure playgrounds

- P1 conduct an environmental audit to assess the potential use of the playable space
- P2 develop and modify the space according to your play based observations and feedback from children and young people in the play environment
- P3 support children and young people in designing and building a structure within the playground
- P4 support children in the design and enhancement/or enhancement of a feature in the playground
- P5 acquire, select and use resources appropriate to the play environment and the needs, interests and requirements of children and young people
- P6 maintain and ensure safe storage of resources in line with resource requirements,
- P7 inspect features and structures to ensure maintenance activities are carried out as required
- P8 contribute to the safe demolition of structures and features as appropriate to play needs

You must be able to:

Support children and young people to create, develop and maintain ownership of adventure playgrounds

- P9 support children and young people in the ongoing process of building and adapting their play structures and features
- P10 respect and safeguard children and young people's created play spaces
- P11 ensure a sufficient range of appropriate resources for children and young people to use
- P12 enable a play-centred approach in providing children and young people access to resources
- P13 work sensitively and adjust work approach accordingly to increase children and young people's independent use of resources
- P14 support children and young people in the maintenance and storage of resources
- P15 undertake dynamic risk/benefit assessment of children and young people using resources
- P16 support children and young people to develop their understanding of the basic principles of structural integrity and maintenance

You must be able to:

Work with children, young people and their local neighbourhood to develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

- P17 assess the socioeconomic and cultural diversity of the local

SKAPW39 - SQA Unit Code FT53 04

Develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

- neighbourhood and use this to inform your practise
- P18 manage issues involved in children and young people arriving and leaving the playground within the limitations of your role
- P19 take appropriate action to effectively contribute to the management of safety and security at night
- P20 identify and manage ownership and territoriality issues with due regard to safety
- P21 build positive relationships with local neighbours and residents
- P22 raise local awareness of the playground's aims and of children and young people's right to play
- P23 contribute to building a sense of local ownership and support of the playground

SKAPW39 - SQA Unit Code FT53 04

Develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

For the Whole Unit

- K1 how the Playwork Principles specifically relate to this unit
- K2 the relevant statutory framework within which you work
- K3 how to balance risk, benefit and safety in your work relating to this unit

You need to know and understand:

Work with tools and materials to design, construct and maintain structures in adventure playgrounds

- K4 the factors that need to be considered in carrying out an effective environmental / play audit
- K5 different ways in which young people and children can be involved in the modification of the play space
- K6 the type of contribution that it is appropriate for you to make with regards to designing, enhancing and / or building features and structures within the play area
- K7 a range of building techniques appropriate for building and adapting features and structures
- K8 a range of methods and strategies for obtaining resources appropriate to the adventure playground
- K9 methods for adapting and recycling resources to meet play needs
- K10 procedures for ascertaining the safety of resources before children and young people access them
- K11 how to identify, select and use play resources appropriate to children and young people's needs, interests and requirements
- K12 how to store different types of resources and the organisational guidelines and play needs that need to be taken account of in choosing appropriate storage conditions
- K13 how to ensure that features and structures are adequately monitored and maintained
- K14 how to facilitate and make sure resources are effectively maintained
- K15 how to ensure the safe demolition of different types of structures and features and how to gauge the contribution that you should make to the process
- K16 what safety equipment is required to ensure your personal safety and the safety of others
- K17 how to ensure that building work is left 'safe' when unsupervised
- K18 the design specifications that support the inclusive use of structures for all children and young people

You need to know and understand:

Support children and young people to create, develop and maintain ownership of adventure playgrounds

- K19 basic principles of structural integrity

Develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

- K20 how to identify weaknesses in materials that may not be evident to children and young people (shakes, knots)
- K21 how to identify the correct use of wood to make best use of its strength.
- K22 how to develop an inspection and maintenance regime
- K23 how to develop a scheme of works from your inspection records to sustain the play environment in a fit for purpose state
- K24 how to use a range of fixings (nails, screws, stud bar washers and bolts, rope)
- K25 how to safely use a range of basic tools and building equipment relevant to design and construction
- K26 the benefits of self build opportunities for children and young people
- K27 where to access expert advice and statistics (ROSPA, HSE, PSF, CAPT, etc)
- K28 the type of support that should be given to people and young people in building and adapting play structures and features
- K29 different ways in which you can assist in safeguarding outdoor play spaces, structures and features created by children and young people
- K30 the range and scope of resources that needs to be acquired in order to make sure that there is sufficient resources for all children and young people to use
- K31 'play-centred' approaches appropriate to allowing children and young people access to resources
- K32 why it is important to increase children and young people's independent use of resources and different ways of adjusting work approach to encourage this
- K33 the factors which are important in carrying out effective dynamic risk/benefit assessment of children and young people involved in designing and building structures
- K34 suitable methods for supporting dug-in structures

You need to know and understand:

Work with children, young people and their local neighbourhood to develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

- K35 the possible moods and dynamics of individuals and groups of children and young people when they are entering, leaving and whilst on site and how to respond to these
- K36 why ongoing consideration is important in the management of:
 - K36.1 issues related to children and young people arriving and leaving the playground
 - K36.2 safety and security at night
 - K36.3 ownership and territoriality
- K37 the types of actions that can be taken to contribute to the management of safety and security at night
- K38 effective methods for working with the local neighbourhood to foster local ownership of the playground, including work with: children, young people, local organisations and any relevant local organisations and

SKAPW39 - SQA Unit Code FT53 04

Develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

agencies

- K39 how to research and adapt your practice according to the socioeconomic and cultural diversity within the neighbourhood and why this is important
- K40 how to identify and gain access to relevant individuals in the local neighbourhood for purposes that support the adventure playground

Additional Information

Scope/range related to performance criteria

1. **potential use**
 - 1.1 physical
 - 1.2 affective
2. **resources**
 - 2.1 materials
 - 2.2 equipment
 - 2.3 tools
 - 2.4 Personal Protective Equipment

Glossary

Adventure Playgrounds

A space dedicated solely to children's play, where skilled playworkers enable and facilitate the ownership, development and design of that space – physically, socially and culturally – by the children playing there. The indoor and outdoor area is enclosed by a boundary which signals that the space within is dedicated to children's play and that activities such as digging, making fires or building and demolishing dens – activities not normally condoned in other spaces where children play – are provided for and encouraged

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

Environmental Audit

Analysis, evaluation and recommendations for the design of play space

Feature

Naturally occurring, enhanced or created attraction, such as excavations, pits or plantings

Play space

Any area – physical, affective, permanent or transient – that supports and enriches the potential for children and young people's self-directed play. A play environment may consist of one or any number of play spaces

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

SKAPW39 - SQA Unit Code FT53 04

Develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

responsibilities, wider family members, partners of parents and childminders or similar

Structure

Building, construction or organised arrangement of parts/materials

Links to other NOS

This unit link s closely with units SKAPW6, SKAPW7, SKAPW8, SKAPW9 and SKAPW10

SKAPW39 - SQA Unit Code FT53 04

Develop, maintain and sustain adventure playgrounds

Developed by SkillsActive

Version number 1

Date approved July 2010

Indicative review date July 2015

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation SkillsActive

Original URN SA44NPW39

Relevant occupations Health, Public Services and Care; Child Development and Well Being; Associate Professionals and Technical Occupations; Sports and Fitness Occupations

Suite Playwork

Key words develop, maintain, sustain, adventure, playgrounds