



National  
Guidance  
<http://oeapng.info>

## Every Child Matters and Outdoor Learning

The current UK Government (in 2011) remains committed to the principles that lie at the heart of the Every Child Matters agenda and believes that the fundamental framework is a sound one. It believes that allowing local areas to decide for themselves what works best in local circumstances, is a more effective way of improving outcomes for children than through central prescription.

Learning outside the classroom and residential experiences can play a significant role in achieving the outcomes of Every Child Matters. Participation in these activities not only encourages healthy lifestyles, it develops the personal attributes and social skills that are vital for achievement, social inclusion, responsible citizenship, enterprise and employability, and it helps children and young people to learn to manage risk.

Every Child Matters outcome	Outdoor Learning contribution to ECM
Enjoy and Achieve – develop the capacity to enjoy learning and succeed in it	Developing self-awareness, self-esteem, self-confidence & teamwork. Engagement & motivation. Extending horizons. Real-world learning.
Stay Safe – learn how to stay safe and manage risk	Developing the ability to assess and manage risk while taking part in challenging activities.
Be Healthy – understand how to maintain a healthy lifestyle	Participating in healthy physical activities. Developing lifelong recreational interests. Maintaining mental wellbeing through participation in positive activities.
Make a Positive Contribution – form relationships and participate in society	Developing awareness of and respect for self, others & environment. Building relationships through shared experiences. Engagement in positive activities instead of anti-social activities.
Achieve Economic Well-being – acquire the skills, knowledge and understanding relevant to adult and working life.	Developing attributes and personal skills for employability & enterprise. Real-world learning.

