



Harrietsham Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Jackie Chambers
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Nurtured We Flourish

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Term 4 OPAL Playtime Parent Play Sessions

Monday 31st March – Friday 4th April 2025

Dear Families,

As you know, we are working on improving our playtimes with OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning). We are still in the early stages, but we would like to show you our progress so far.

We are very excited to invite you to come and share in a lunchtime play with your child/children in the school playground on the week beginning Monday 31st March. There will be a range of resources available, including the mud kitchen, sandpit, tyres, bread crates and various play equipment.

To make this a safe experience for all, there are certain **rules and procedures that must be followed**:

- Unfortunately, we will not be able to allow any pre-school aged siblings to attend. The playground is small and we would hate for anyone to be injured.
- All adults visiting must have completed the online form with their registration details and signed in at the school office before attending.
- We cannot allow mobile phones on the playground or anywhere within the school. Please leave these at home or in a pocket.
- Unfortunately, we cannot have adult toilets open on the day, and we cannot allow adults and children to share toilets. For that reason, we will be unable to provide a toilet for any visiting adults.
- Adults must stay on the playground until they are ready to leave. Please do not go into the school building for any reason other than going back to the office to sign out.
- Your children know the “do’s and don’ts” for outside play. These are their rules. Please do follow the rules of play that your children will explain to you.
- Please do not allow children to engage in rough play with you. Please do not lift any child under any circumstances.
- If you have any concerns during your visit, please raise these with a member of the play team (with a purple high-vis jacket).

Please indicate on the below link if you are able to attend one of our play sessions, and sign to say that you agree to follow the rules. We are really excited about this project and hope that you will support us in our efforts to improve playtime for all our children!

Sign-up here: <https://forms.gle/JN3XMm7rrDjxst167>

If possible, we would love you to please bring along a play donation.

For example:

- **Loose parts:** clean wood (no nails), plastic pipe / guttering (no sharp edges), plastic crates (no sharp broken bits).
- **Den making equipment:** tarpaulins, old bed sheets, clothes pegs.
- **Small world toys:** fairies, knights, dolls, cars, animals etc.
- **Wheeled toys:** suitcases, old unbroken buggies, bikes, scooters.
- **Arts and Crafts:** paper, pens and pencils, craft materials, chalks.
- **Dressing up:** any clothes that children may want to dress-up in (can be normal clothes e.g. hats, suit jackets, dresses, cultural wear – not necessarily fancy dress)

Please bring any donations to the school office. Items will be safety checked before going onto the playground.

Schedule:

- **Year R, Year 2, Swallows, Eagles and Hawks**
11:30am - 12:30pm
(Please note there will be a period of time within this slot when your child will be eating in the hall; please remain outside during this time).
- **Year 1, Year 3, Nightingales, Kestrels and Herons**
12:30pm - 1:30pm
(Please note there will be a period of time within this slot when your child will be eating in the hall; please remain outside during this time).

Please note: Lunchtimes are different for some Year 4, 5 and 6 children on **Wednesday 2nd April**. If your child is a swimmer, they will have their lunchbreak from 11:30am - 12:30pm with Year R, Year 2, Swallows, Eagles and Hawks).

Please dress for all weathers and for play!

For more information about our OPAL journey so far, please see the link on our website: [OPAL \(Outdoor Play and Learning\) at Harrietsham | Harrietsham Church of England Primary School.](#)

Please give us your feedback following your visit:

Following your visit, we would love to hear your feedback via the link to the google form here: <https://forms.gle/jXipEzxoG2G9Pqw4A>

Yours sincerely,

The OPAL Team

Mrs Frost – OPAL Curriculum Leader
Miss Bradley – OPAL Play Leader
Mrs Mannering – OPAL Assistant
Mrs Chambers and Mr Gambell

