

Parental Engagement

Parental engagement is key to making outdoor learning successful. Often, it has been our experience that parents can initially view outdoor learning as play and not learning. Therefore, some time with parents helping them understand play is a form of learning and that outdoor learning is key.

Curriculum Evenings

This can be a great way of introducing outdoor learning and helping parents see the real connection. We have helped schools deliver curriculum evenings outdoors and hands-on, making the learning real to the parents.

Social Media

Lots of schools use blogs, Facebook or Twitter to share learning. Thinking about the language you use here is key. When we look at social media accounts for schools, they talk about indoor learning by highlighting the learning and not the activity. Instead of saying the children were playing with pens and paper, they will say they were practising their handwriting. Instead of saying they were using counters, they will say the children were learning to count in groups of etc. Yet, when they talk about outdoor learning, the activity is often focused on rather than learning skills.

Being mindful of the language we use helps parents understand the learning.

Open Doors

Are you able to invite parents to attend outdoor learning lessons? Again, helping them see the learning in practice can really help them understand the benefits of outdoor learning.

