

Do you remember JUST PLAYING!?"? It's WHAT CHILDHOOD'S ALL ABOUT!

OUTDOORS **WITH OTHER CHILDREN**
SPONTANEOUS **NOT DIRECTED BY ADULTS**
NOT OVERLY SUPERVISED

Today just one in five children play regularly outside in their neighbourhood. The rest are denied the chance to get out of the house and have the everyday adventures of childhood!

81% of adults believe that children playing outside helps to improve community spirit.

Many children experience barriers to play including traffic, attitudes in the community towards "playing out", risk aversion in adults and a lack of suitable places.

"It is vital that everyone in the community comes together to overcome this culture of fear and intolerance and works to promote child-friendly communities with increased outdoor play opportunities for children in and around the communities where they live. Children with regular access to playable spaces are much more likely to grow up healthier and happier."

Marguerite Hunter Blair, Chief Executive, Play Scotland, Playday 2010

About Play Scotland

Play Scotland works to promote the importance of play for all children and young people, and campaigns to create increased play opportunities in the community.

- ✎ Formed in 1998 to make the child's right to play a reality in Scotland
- ✎ Membership organisation and registered charity funded by the Scottish Government
- ✎ Works with 30 play related partner organisations through the Scottish Play Policy Forum, established in 2008



MANIFESTO FOR PLAY 2011



**Making the Child's Right to Play a Reality in Scotland
Promoting Article 31 UNCRC**

Play Scotland are calling on all politicians to continue to make Play a Priority in Scotland, by pledging to promote:

A Statutory Duty for Play

WHY? – to ensure that Local Authorities are committed to providing sufficient and satisfying play opportunities for children of all ages and abilities.

HOW? – a Universal Play Fund to support play services could remove the barriers to access and increase quality play opportunities throughout all of Scotland.

Scotland delivers “Improved children’s outcomes and quality of life through play” (Early Years Framework 2008)

The Inclusion of Children and Young People in the Planning and Provision of Play Space

WHY? – children have the right to play and participate. (Article 31 and Article 12, United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child).

HOW? – by giving children a role in Community Planning and School Playground usage and design appropriate to their ages and stages of development.

Scotland creates “well designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need”

(National Outcomes 2008)

The Creation of Child-Friendly Communities

WHY? – to deliver the Child’s Right to Play, increase physical activity and improve children’s health and well being.
- child-friendly spaces promote social interaction and strengthen community spirit between children and adults, while making areas more desirable places to live.

HOW? – designate all public space a potential play space (unless otherwise categorised)

Scotland builds “strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.” (National Outcomes 2008)

A Highly Skilled Play Workforce

WHY? – play is essential for children’s development and an integral part of a good childhood. This requires skilled adults trained in the Playwork Principles (available through Play Scotland/SkillsActive)

HOW? – by working with Sector Skills Councils, in particular SkillsActive, and accredited trainers to develop a proficient workforce.

Scotland’s Children deserve “Quality at the heart of service delivery”

(Early Years Framework 2008)