

MALDWYN NURSERY & FAMILY CENTRE

MALDWYN NURSERY & FAMILY CENTRE

Park lane \* Newtown \* Powys \* SY16 1DE \* Tel 01686622191

**Loose Parts Policy and Procedure**

Loose parts are the label given to any collection of natural or manmade materials that can be used to expand children’s play. Loose partsare materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, stacked up, taken apart and put back together. These materials can be used alone or combined with other materials.

Having the loose parts available here at Maldwyn Nursery and Family Centre allows the children to use these materials as they choose to. Often we find the children would rather play with these materials and use and adapt as they please. This gives the children also the opportunity to use their imagination.

Children playing with loose parts are using more creativity and imagination whilst developing more skills and competence than they would play with most modern plastic toys.

A staff member will encourage the children to use these materials as they can provide a wider range of opportunities than one that is purely adult led.

The loose parts we provide in our different areas within the rooms are but not limited to:

* **Role play** – hats, bags, glasses, scarfs, crockery, utensils, jugs, telephones, camera, mobile phones, weighing scales, egg cups, dried food, jewellery
* **Construction –** wooden blocks, cable reels, wooden pieces, guttering, pipes, tubing, carpet tubes, hammers, tools and many more
* **Creative area** – clipboards, pebbles, shells, stones, pine cones, corks, conkers, milk lids, frames, twigs, curtain rings, wooden shapes and many more
* **Cosy area** – cushions, throws, voiles, curtains, tents, books, leaflets, catalogues, magazines, fairy lights and many more
* **Outside area** – pallets, cable reels, tyres, ladders, crates, decking, stones, wooden blocks, saucepans, cones, guttering, drainpipes, cardboard boxes, bricks, utensils and many more

Staffs are all implementing the loose parts materials within the setting and will continue to attend any training to develop current practice as and when needed.

We are continuing to keep adding resources throughout our setting and making our setting more natural, calming and inviting for our children in our care to learn in.

All loose parts and new parts are checked each week as a when they are used, put away and cleaned. Any loose parts needs to be included in risk assessments completed.

We are always looking to improve and expand our loose part materials and ask any parents for donations of any loose parts at home that we could use in our setting – these would be very much appreciated.

If parents would like any further information on loose parts please speak to a member of staff.

Daily activities to be shared with parents throughout their child’s day at nursery on our Parenta app.

**Reviewed April 2023 Chelsea Thorley**