

**Lewknor Parish Council
and
Lewknor Parish Recreation Ground & Hall
Play Policy**

The term 'play space' refers to the Play Area on the Lewknor Parish Recreation Ground.

- 1 Lewknor Parish Council (LPC) and Lewknor Parish Council Recreation Ground & Hall Trustees ('Trustees') jointly adopt this policy.
- 2 LPC and the Trustees recognise the importance and **value of play** in the development of children and young people and for the benefit of society as a whole. Play is essential for physical, emotional and spiritual growth and for intellectual, educational and social development.
- 3 LPC and the Trustees believe that all children and young people want and need opportunities to play. Play provision should be welcoming and **accessible** to every child, irrespective of gender, economic or social circumstances, ethnic or cultural background or origin, or individual abilities. Although play spaces should be accessible to all, this does not mean that all children need to be able to do everything within a play space.
- 4 LPC and the Trustees recognise that the best play provision is designed to offer all children and young people access to a wide range of experience in settings, which support acceptable levels of risk. This means that children should not be exposed to unacceptable risk of death or permanently disabling injury. Other kinds of risk may be acceptable if the social benefit is evident. We acknowledge the need to allow **challenge and risk** in play settings and we will always assess risk in conjunction with the possible benefit of any provision.
- 5 LPC and the Trustees want people of all ages to be able to share our play space and there should be no presumption against children, young people and adults of **all ages** having access to quality play opportunities.
- 6 LPC and the Trustees wish to create a beautiful space that inspires, engages, challenges and is well cared for. We have commissioned an experienced **landscape** designer in the process of developing our play space.
- 7 LPC and the Trustees have **engaged** local children, young people, parents, carers and residents in the development of our play space and their views are at the heart of its' development.

This policy was adopted by LPC on 15 February 2010 and LPRG&H on 22 February 2010.