



Messy Play Policy (September 2023)

At Sancton Wood, children are actively encouraged to participate in messy play activities. Messy play activities are linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and actively promote children's creative and sensory development.

Purpose of Messy Play

- The tactile experience gained during messy play helps children to experience new and unfamiliar textures in a fun and exciting way.
- Helps child develop creative and sensory skills.
- Helps children develop fine motor skills and hand and eye co-ordination.
- Develops communication and language skills through the expression of feelings, thoughts and findings to others.
- Helps children build a healthy relationship with food. Risk assessment
- Mess play activities are risk assessed and supervised. Utensils and other equipment used during activities are regularly cleaned and dietary requirements, allergies, skin sensitivity, culture and religion are taken into consideration when planning messy play.
- Activities involving messy play are planned so they are age appropriate and related to the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Messy Activities may include the use of:

Cooking	Playdough
Cornflour	Salt dough
Foods: oats, beans, cream, pastas, rice, pulses, jelly, cereals, sugar, flour, ice	Sand and water
Glue	Shaving foam and gel
Mud	Slime
Paint	Soap flakes