

Taking the Curriculum Outdoors

Inspire your Learners by making learning real and contextual

A bespoke training course delivered to meet your needs at your school

A one- or two-day course covering the benefits of outdoor learning; practical ideas for subject specific teaching and learning; facilitation styles, group and risk management; and overcoming barriers.

Aims

- To empower teachers to explore and use their outdoor space for teaching and learning
- To instil confidence by taking part in and examining a series of practical, adaptable activities outside.

Learning Outcomes

Participants will:

- Recognise the potential of their outdoor space for teaching and learning
- Have practical, curriculum linked teaching ideas
- Identify and manage risk appropriately
- Be enthusiastic and confident about using the outdoors for teaching and learning.

“Outdoor Learning isn’t a subject or topic, it is a powerful way of teaching” (Natural Connections, 2016).

At a time when we are increasingly concerned about the physical and emotional wellbeing of our children and young people, and question whether they will leave education with the skills and competencies they will need for the future, outdoor learning brings with it a range of benefits which are now widely evidenced, acknowledged and accepted.

Taking the curriculum outside can improve attainment, increase engagement, and develop a wide range of skills including problem solving, communication and resilience. It also provides endless opportunities for experiential, contextual and applied learning.

However, Outdoor Learning is at its most potent when its strands are interwoven with the formal school curriculum, rather than being undertaken as isolated windows in a child's education. By taking a holistic view of all the environments available to us – from school grounds to mountain tops – we can maximise the learning potential of such spaces and our students.

Designed specifically with schools in mind, we provide courses and CPD to give you the confidence, skills and ideas to take your teaching out into your school grounds and beyond as part of your day-to-day practice, and embed outdoor learning in your curriculum.

Meeting your needs

Prior to any course we will discuss with you exactly what you are hoping to achieve. The programme and activities will then be tailored to your school, staff and children to ensure maximum effectiveness.

"... Thank you so much...it was fantastic from so many angles. I can honestly say that I have never seen a day of INSET yield so much change. Every day I have seen classes in the grounds with staff who would not have done so before. In addition we have run a programme of team building for yrs 4-8 and so much more new material came into it as a result of your course." **Tim Calvey, Headmaster, Orley Farm Preparatory School, Harrow, England**

"An exceptional start to our academic year...perfectly tailored to meet our school needs...and incredibly well presented and successful day. Since then, all teaching staff have been out into our outside area and led sessions with groups, whilst being able to confidently assess and manage any risks...a hugely valuable training session." **Sarah Walton, Foundation Subject Manager, Westfield Community School, Wigan, England**

"Our teachers are very enthusiastic about outdoor learning now and we would like to thank you for the inspiration you spread among them - it was a pleasure to work with you." **Esmat Lamai, Directrice, Oasis International School, Maadi, Cairo, Egypt**

For more information on this or any other of our courses, or to discuss your own ideas, please contact enquiries@maximisinglearning.com