

Playworks is a semi-structured approach to how you organise playtime during breaks on the yard. Playworks promotes a positive atmosphere, conflict resolution skills and encourages our children to be active during break times.

Positive Atmosphere

Playworks fosters a positive atmosphere.

We high five each other when we start a game, leave a game. Win, lose or draw we are always positive. Teachers high five children to say 'well done' and we encourage children to do the same. We have Playworks tokens that we use to reward spontaneous positive behaviour. Children collect these as a class and exchange them for extra playtime. Teachers and children initiate warm ups and cool downs in our lines which help children transition to play and then back to class.

Praise needs to be quick, easy and immediate!

A focus on positivity helps keep yard a fun place!

Ro / Sham/ Bo can definitely help stop small arguments!

Conflict Resolution

Playworks helps with conflict management on the yard

Children use Ro /Sham / Bo if there are disagreements in games. This is so games keep moving and children get to play more. It's also known as rock / paper/ scissors! It helps children to not sweat the small stuff. Some teachers even use it in class to help decide who goes first in games, or who got to the line first!

Teachers have more time to focus on supporting play

Children are more active and focus on play and not conflict

Active Breaks

Playworks encourages active breaks.

We have Junior Coaches who organise and manage Playworks games. They have training but are supported by the teachers and staff on duty. These games are inclusive, fun and are fast paced 'in and out' style games, so lots of children get a chance to play over a break. Children join games if they wish. After a while children begin to come up with their own versions and play themselves, they generalise the skills from Playworks coaches!

Children burn off energy and are ready for class

Playworks is a whole school effort and it helps everyone take responsibility for yard time!