

Respectful, Responsible and Safe
PLAYGROUND PROCEDURES & RULES

Responsible

Students must bring/wear coats for inclement weather. Students may not return to the classroom to get coats without adult supervision.

Students should play only in designated playground areas (not in the woods). They should ask permission to retrieve any equipment that leaves the playground.

Students should be responsible to play appropriately. Expectations are explained with all grade levels at the beginning of the year, and after winter/spring breaks.

- Fighting and play-fighting will not be tolerated. (This includes tripping, pushing, shoving, punching, grabbing, wrestling, carrying, picking up or jumping on another student, the use of pretend guns and knives etc.)
- Two finger touch tag only
- Balls, jump ropes, and other equipment should not be used on the bark areas.
- Touch and flag football only - not tackle. Do not grab when blocking or touching.
- Bars and climbing apparatus should be used in a safe manner, always using two hands.
- Balls, and other playground toys should be used safely and for what they were designed. Balls should not be batted, kicked, or thrown against the school building or portable walls.
 - Rubber Ball - bouncing, throwing, and (kicking on the fields)
 - Soccer and Football – kicking and throwing on the fields
 - Basketball – hoops and orange cone only

The school will provide a sufficient supply of play equipment. Students may not bring play equipment or toys from home, **including umbrellas**.

In an effort, to make team sports fair to all players, teams (soccer, dodge ball, kickball, etc.) will be made by the playground supervisors. Students should not leave a team sport after teams have been made, so the teams remain fair and even.

Students should follow established game rules. (Game rules available upon request or on the web page.)

Students should settle differences peacefully and get help from the playground supervisor if needed.

Students are trusted to immediately stop what they are doing when the bell rings and **walk** to line quickly and quietly.

Students are trusted to not leave the playground during recess for any reason without permission from the playground supervisor.

Respectful

Students are to respect the adults in charge and go to designated time-out areas when instructed.

Students should use appropriate language and gestures. No profanity

Students should show pride in their school by keeping the building and grounds free of litter.

Recess activities will be open to all students.

Safe

Rocks, dirt, sticks, and snowballs are to stay on the ground.

Students should not chew gum, eat food, or have any foreign objects in their mouths.

Students are trusted to walk on the sidewalks or blacktop to and from recess.

Students are expected to dress appropriately for recess, dress for the weather and follow the school dress code.

- ✚ Our goal is to foster an environment where *all* students feel safe and valued on the playground. Students learn to navigate relationships and enjoy physical activity. When students make mistakes, recess teachers use a variety of strategies to help them learn. Coaching kids through conflict using “I statements”, teaching Kelso strategies, assigning students to alternative play areas, and timeouts are used frequently on the playground. The school counselor often assists with students who have ongoing concerns or need support learning how to navigate peer relationships. Communication with the principal and classroom teachers occurs after multiple incidents on the playground. The principal will meet with students to reteach expectations and contact parents to invite them into the problem-solving process. For information on how you can support your child in navigating playground conflict, please read this article by our school counselor. [Coaching Students Through Conflict](#)