

Rules for Equipment and Play Structures

Supervision

1. A minimum of one (1) staff person is to be on duty per class at all times on the play areas during school recesses.
2. No children are to be sent out before an adult is on duty.
3. People who are not involved with The Portland Village School are not allowed to loiter on the play areas during school hours, unless they are on tour or have been granted written permission from the Administration.
4. The adults on duty are to be vigilant in making sure only appropriate equipment is being used and that it is being used in the proper way.
5. Adults on duty should encourage the most efficient use of playground space for all users and their respective activities and may ask groups to adjust, as needed, for the safety and fairness of all.
6. Adults ought to feel comfortable in guiding appropriate play among age groups with an eye to suitability, roughness, etc. If an adult sees something that makes them uncomfortable, they should stop the behavior and communicate it to the class teacher, if applicable.

Equipment/ Structures

All these guidelines with the notion that when younger classes are on the grounds with older classes, the younger children's rules apply (unless there is a designated space for older games... ie: four square, catch, tether ball).

1. All materials need to be used in a safe and responsible manner.
2. Bark chips should stay in play areas.
3. Water table and sand box are for Kindergarten use only. Water table is used with water toys only. Sand table is used with sand toys only; no water.
4. Gates and fences are not to be hung or swung on or closed by children.
5. Sticks are meant for imaginative play, such as digging, building, riding. They are not to be used as weapons or when running.
6. Ropes may be used as jump ropes and harnesses, as well as for pulleys within safe limits. Ropes may never be put around necks.
7. Equipment may be donated to the class for the year (or a period of time) for class use, but must come with communication from parent for teacher approval.
8. Equipment needs to be brought in at the end of recess by the class and put into its designated storage space.

9. No climbing on top of fences, playhouses, or standing on the top of the monkey bars.
10. Children may only climb to the marked height specified for each age group on trees.
11. Shoving, pushing, tackling, or use of excessive force is not allowed.
12. The throwing of play equipment is allowed only when throwing *to* another person never *at* another person.
13. Weaving between moving swings is prohibited.
14. Jumping from the swings is prohibited.
15. Children **MAY** climb on swing structure but only to same height as the child and only on sides, not cross bar.
16. If a child is waiting for a turn, the child swinging must give up their turn after 50 seconds or other time specified by teachers on duty.
17. Tag games are allowed outside of the fenced area only.
18. Any student identified as having damaged school property will participate in the restoration or replacement process.
19. Children are to be respectful of all garden boxes and flower beds- running, tramping, and picking of plants as well as playing in the garden in front of the school is not allowed.

The Before and After care program will follow the same playground rules.

Outside of school hours, supervision of students is the responsibility of parents/guardians, unless students are enrolled in the Before and After Care program or another after-school program, at which point the program is responsible for supervising students. It is the school's expectation that parents ensure that their children remain in their general proximity while on campus.