

## **Get Out and Play this summer with Play Gloucestershire's Play Rangers**

Do you love to play outdoors? This summer, thanks to funding from Gloucestershire County Councillor Loraine Patrick under the Growing Our Communities programme, the Play Rangers will be bringing their special brand of free, fun child-led play to Dursley and villages across the locality. Dursley, Coaley, Leonard Stanley and Uley will all host visits from children's charity Play Gloucestershire.

In Dursley, the play days will be based at The War Memorial Recreation Ground and Highfields Play Area. Activities will include active play such as tennis, tag, football and cricket and creative play such as scrap model making, den building and giant bubbles. Each play day starts at 10am when the Play Rangers set up activities chosen by local children. Throughout the day different activities pop up and the day ends at 4pm after everyone has tidied up and packed away.

Director of Play, Pip Levett said: "The aim of our open access\* play days is to gather communities together to play together. The focus is on child led play and not entertainment. Children get to choose what they do and how they do it. We encourage children to self-organise their own sports and games, helping them to enjoy a day packed with adventure, friendship and fun. We are very excited to be doing a 'grand tour' of the Dursley division. We hope families will join us with picnics and spend the whole day with us, playing in the great outdoors whilst meeting and making friends".

Things you need to know about Play Gloucestershire's community play days:

- These play sessions are aimed at 7 to 14 year olds. Under 7's are welcome if accompanied by a parent or carers
- \*The play days are free and open access. This means there is no formal registration – children can leave the site at any time. Our Play Rangers will not stop them and will not know they have left.
- The Play Rangers will stay on site at lunchtime and are happy to eat their picnics with local families and chat whilst they take a breather
- We encourage children to play freely and choose what they do. They do not have to do anything if they don't want to.
- Children will get wet, hot, cold, smelly (wood smoke from our fire pit) muddy and dirty and need to wear appropriate clothing and footwear. Better to wear old play clothes than ruin your best!
- Our Play Rangers will provide drinking water at all sessions. We promote healthy eating and sometimes will provide free fruit.

- We believe all children have the right to play. Please talk to us if your child needs additional support to enjoy Play Rangers. We welcome disabled children & their families.
- Please come along and say hello when you arrive. If you're not sure what you'd like to do, we can help you get started!

All play days run from 10am to 4pm and diary dates are as follows:

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July Leonard Stanley – The Playing Fields

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August Dursley – The War Memorial Recreation Ground

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August Coaley – The Playing Fields

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August Dursley – Highfields Play Area

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August Coaley – The Playing Fields

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> August Uley – The Millenium Green





