



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

10 November 2025
Opal Play



**THE
HESSLE
ACADEMY**

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Dear Parents/Carers

We are thrilled to share the success of our very first OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) playtime on Friday! Both the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds were open for free-flow play, and the children were absolutely giddy with excitement as they explored and moved between the two spaces.

Thankfully, the weather was kind to us, so wellies weren't needed this time. However, as we are moving into wetter months, please send in a pair of wellies as soon as possible. These can be kept on your child's peg in a bag for easy access. Waterproof trousers and coats would also be hugely beneficial, as our aim is to make full use of the field for activities such as mud kitchens and messy play. Without appropriate clothing, children won't be able to enjoy these experiences fully.

Some highlights from the day include:

- Children collaborating to build imaginative structures using loose parts.
- Creative role play in the outdoor spaces, with mixed-age groups working together.
- Siblings loving the chance to play together.
- Tidying up was surprisingly efficient - a real team effort!
- Lots of laughter and movement as pupils explored new areas and activities.
- Children sharing brilliant ideas to make OPAL playtimes even better in the future.

Donations Welcome

To keep OPAL playtimes exciting and varied, donations of toys and games are always welcome, as are empty cardboard boxes. Some items requested by the children so far include but are not limited to:

- Chess sets
- Playing cards
- Kitchen items
- Balancing games
- Blankets and cushions

What an epic playtime! Thank you for your support in helping us make OPAL playtimes a success. We can't wait to see the children's play continue to evolve!

Check out our school Instagram to see some awesome photos of the day.

Yours faithfully

Mrs S Hornby
Assistant Headteacher