



Press Release

GRANDPONT NURSERY SCHOOL WINS “THE NATURE EFFECT”



Lottery success for outdoor learning

Grandpont Nursery School has won the opportunity to extend its excellent work connecting children with nature and encouraging more families outdoors.

Thanks to a grant for the Big Lottery, the Nature Effect CIC will be working with this Centre of Excellence for Early Education and Childcare and build on its long-standing reputation of high quality learning outdoors.

The grant will enable more resources for new ‘Forest Friday’ sessions – the inspiration of new Headteacher Lisa Fern

New Headteacher Lisa Fern said “We offer high quality all year-round early learning and childcare for children from 12 months to 5 years. We have high expectations of children, and the changing nature of the outdoors offers exciting challenges and opportunities you can’t get indoors. We are lucky to have our own onsite woodland and highly experienced staff to make the most of this beautiful environment. This project will support our Forest Friday sessions. We will continue to learn from our experience and from international research about how children’s development and learning, their wellbeing and vitality is enhanced by connecting with nature and outdoor learning”

The funding will also provide resources and goody bags for families for 5 Family Nature Explorer trips around the local community – across the year. A secondary aim of the project will be to produce a short film about what local families think about their green spaces – allotments, the river, the park and places like Hogacre Common.

The Nature Effect Director Annie Davy said, “We were delighted to be successful in our bid to work with this school and the South Oxford Family Room. We love nothing better than building community outdoors. The staff and community at Grandpont are brilliant – they really put children’s wellbeing and the needs of families at the heart of what they do”

School Governor and Chair of South Oxford Family Room Yan Wong said

“This is excellent news. This community has really rallied together since the closure due to funding cuts of our much-loved children’s centre. South Oxford Family Room is the new community led charity and this kind of programme is exactly the kind of thing we are encouraging to grow”

To find out more about The Nature Effect see: www.thenatureeffect.co.uk