



PLYMOUTH
CITY COUNCIL

INCLUSIVE OUTDOOR PLAY

**Fun, fresh air and friendship
for all abilities**

Providing play opportunities for children and young people is very important to Plymouth City Council.

Inclusive Outdoor Play is about giving children equal access to play regardless of their disability or background. Instead of concentrating on what children can't do, **inclusion** is all about concentrating on their **abilities** and what they can do. Inclusive outdoor play equipment is designed to meet the needs of all children including those with learning difficulties, visual, hearing and sensory challenges as well as physical challenges.

Across Plymouth there are over 100 play parks of various ages and sizes and with a range of facilities. Not every park has equipment that is fully accessible, but we try to ensure that any upgrades carried out are as inclusive as possible and add to the overall play offer. To help us plan we have been engaging with families, disability groups and community representatives.

Play areas that are particularly accessible include Central Park, Beaumont Park, Bodmin Road (Star Park) and Victoria Park.

From large swing seats to interactive panels we aim to provide something for everyone, such as:

- Ground level roundabout - wheelchairs can be pushed directly onto the base plate and spin with other children.
- Multi-play seesaw with additional back support
- Ground level trampoline - wheelchairs can be pushed directly on to the netting and bounced, suitable for everyone.
- Climbing equipment with hand-holds and low platforms.
- Interactive touch and sound boards or changes in colour and texture.
- Where possible equipment is installed at heights that make transferring from wheelchairs as easy as possible.
- Image boards to help children point to where they want to play
- Ground level graphics and interactive games

Find out about other play areas you can visit www.plymouth.gov.uk/parksnatureandgreenspaces/findplayground

Disabled children do not want to be treated differently or want a lot of special equipment which signals them out from other users. They want as far as possible to use the things their peers use. Where this isn't practical the main thing they want is to be there; be part of the overall experience; be with their friends.
ROSPA

Children and young people benefit from being outside, interacting with the environment and learning from nature. Outdoor play improves health and well-being, encourages shared experiences and promotes development.

