



**Learning through play**

To whom it may concern,

Please find an outline below of some improvements that we would like to make at Springfield Preschool (The Islands, The Grove, Alexandra Palace)

### **Current outdoor space**

We are very fortunate at Springfield to be situated within the grounds of Alexandra Palace. The natural environment offers our children the chance to explore and play in a large open space. Currently, a section of the sloped grassed area is very muddy (and has been for a long time), this causes children and adults to slip, footwear gets covered in mud, which in turn finds its way inside the building. The grass also has little chance of re-growth in the warmer months given it's a heavy traffic (play) area.

### **Proposal for improvement**

The reason for the work required is threefold: to address the current health and safety risks that are present, preserving the current look in keeping with the existing area but making it hard wearing and built to last, and to enable the children to gain maximum benefit from a good play surface outside during the winter months. We're keen to keep the natural look within the garden space, whilst using materials that would be hard wearing. I've attached the plans that we've had designed. It includes an area of artificial grass and a path of rubber mulch leading down to the existing sand pit. This solution will also leave a majority of the natural grassed area untouched, this is the area that would be seen from the path within The Grove.

### **Costs & Timings**

Costs of the improvement will be covered by fundraising as well as trying to tap into grants that may be available to us from external organisations. Timings will be dependent on when we have the funds available.

I am in the process of applying to Haringey Council for planning permission for this improvement. If you have any further questions regarding our plans, please contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Lou Colley (General Manager) & 345 preschools Management Committee