**The Children’s Outdoor Play Project**

Interview Topic Guide – School Staff

**Opening**

Thank you for taking the time to talk to me today. I will be recording our chat, but only the research team will hear the recording. Your real name will be changed when we transcribe the session. If you don’t want to answer any of my questions, you can tell me, and we can stop this interview at any time, if you want a break or don’t want to take part anymore then just let me know. Does that all sound OK?

**Views on the purpose of breaktime**

* Tell me about break time in your school
  + What do children do during breaktime?
  + What would you say is the purpose of breaktime?
    - Do you think that’s the only purpose or are there any other you can think if?
    - What do you think would be the consequences if there were no breaktimes at all?
  + What do you want children to get from it?
  + What do you see as the role of school staff during breaktimes at school?
    - Are there any skills you feel school staff need?

**Views on play**

* Do you think that schools have a role in supporting children’s outdoor play?
  + Can you tell me about more about why you think that
* What do you perceive as your role in supporting outdoor play to be?

*Show 2 regular playtime pictures (Pictures A and B)*

* What do you think of this example of school breaktime?
  + How does it compare to your school’s breaktimes?
  + How would you feel if your school’s breaktimes looked like this? ￼

**Views on the nature of risky/adventurous play**

* What do you think of when I say “risky-play”?
* What do you think of when I say “adventurous play”?

*By adventurous play we mean play that is thrilling and exciting where your child might experience some fear and uncertainty. This includes playing up high, moving so fast they feel they might lose control, playing near open water or a cliff, play fighting, playing with tools that could be dangerous or playing somewhere they could get lost and are out of sight of adults. For example, jumping off something very high, climbing high, riding a bike very fast, exploring woodland alone or with a friend, would all be examples of adventurous play. Does that make sense?*

* What do you think about adventurous play?
  + **Do you think it is important for children to engage in adventurous play?**
    - **Why do you think it is important for children to engage in adventurous play?**
    - **Why do you think it is not very important for children to engage in adventurous play?**
  + Do you think children have enough opportunities to engage in adventurous play? – generally?
  + Thinking of adventurous play, where do you think this play should happen?
  + Thinking about adventurous play, whose responsibility do you think it is that children have the opportunity to engage in adventurous play?

**Views of risky/adventurous play in school**

* What do you think about adventurous play happening during breaktime at school?
  + How much opportunity do children at your school have to engage in adventurous play?
  + To what extent do you think schools should encourage adventurous play in schools?

*Show children’s adventurous play (Pictures C and D)*

* What do you think of these examples of school breaktime?
  + How does it compare to your school’s breaktimes?
  + How would you feel if your breaktimes looked like this?
* Would you be supportive of your school children having opportunities for adventurous play?
  + - Why?
    - Why not?
* What might make it difficult for you to give children the opportunities for adventurous play in schools?
* What things might make it easier for you to allow children the opportunities for adventurous play in schools

**Comparing perspectives**

* We’re also talking to parents as part of this study. If they were to tell us that they’d like their children to have opportunities for adventurous play during break time would that change your perspective?

**Ending**

* Is there something you would like to add?
* Do you have any questions for me?

**-END**