**Appendix 7:** Interview topic guide – Parents

**The Children’s Outdoor Play Project**

**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 of breaktime and standard school playground**

* What do you see as the purpose of breaktime at school?
  + Can you tell me a bit more about the purpose of breaktime at school?
  + What do you think would be the consequences if there were no break times at school?
* What do you see the role of school staff during breaktime at school?
  + Is that there only role?
  + Do you think school staff need any particular skills to supervise break time at schools?

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

* What do you think of these example of school breaktime?
  + Take your time, are you able to tell me what you notice?
  + Do you think breaktimes should look like this?
* How would you feel if your child’s breaktime 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”?

*Interviewer clarify definition for purpose of the interview*

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?
* What are your experiences of adventurous play with your own child?
  + Does your child play in an adventurous way?
  + Where does your child play most adventurously?
    - Are there any other places where your child plays adventurously?
    - What is it about X that means they are a good place for 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?
  + Why? Why might they not have these opportunities?
* Thinking about 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?
  + Do you think it’s anyone else’s responsibility?

**Views of adventurous play in schools**

* What do you think about adventurous play happening during breaktime at school?
* How much opportunity do you think your child has to engage in adventurous play in their school?

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

* What do you think of these examples of school breaktime?
* How would you feel if your child’s breaktime looked like this?
* Would you support your child’s school offering opportunities for adventurous play?
  + Why?/Why not?
  + Is there anything that would change your mind?
    - School/information/Psychologists
* What do you think are the things that make is harder for schools to provide opportunities for children to engage in adventurous play in schools?
  + Why do you think some schools might be worried?
* What do you think are the things that make it easier for schools to provide opportunities for children to engage in adventurous play in schools?
* Thinking back to the sets of playgrounds I showed you earlier, which set of playgrounds would you want for your child?
  + Why?

**Comparing perspectives**

* According to school staff, one of the main worries about increasing opportunities for children to engage in adventurous play is that they are concerned about parents perceptions towards this. What would you say to this?

**Closing remarks**

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

**End**