

## Play Transforms Lives.

The UNCRC United Nations Convention on the rights of the Child article 31 states:

“Parties recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.”

Play is a human right.

Play provision aims to offer children the chance to encounter acceptable risks as part of a stimulating, challenging and controlled learning environment. In play provision, exposure to some degree of risk is beneficial because it satisfies a basic human need and gives children the chance to learn about risk and consequences in a controlled environment. (1)

The notions of playfulness, challenge and risk management are at the centre of Parkour’s philosophy and practice.

“Risk-taking is an essential feature of play provision and of all environments in which children legitimately spend time playing.”

“It is the duty of play providers to offer risk-taking opportunities. Without such opportunities, children’s and young people’s happy and healthy development will be impaired.” (2)

We believe in empowering children so that they can engage in play with the awareness and knowledge required to make their own decisions while exploring their own potential. We believe in empowering teachers so that they understand the benefits of play and help them enjoy free play as the powerful learning tool it can be. We believe that allowing controlled risk in classrooms and playgrounds means that children are less likely to seek out risks elsewhere.

Through incorporating parkour into games and play activities, our children will understand that play and movement forms a fundamental part of their health, wellbeing and social life. They will see active environments wherever they are.

They will be connected to a community of movement and movers, building new relationships with spaces and people as they grow.

We believe that play is a fundamental aspect of the education process and that the greatest compliment children can give us is incorporating our games into their own free play.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R.C. Grant".

Chris Grant, Development Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Hall".

John Hall Access Parkour

This policy was co-written with John Hall - Access Parkour - [www.accessparkour.com](http://www.accessparkour.com)

[1] BS EN 1176-1 Playground equipment and surfacing – Part 1: General safety requirements and test methods (BSI, 2008a)

[1] <https://playlink.org/playlink-play-policy.html> Extracts from Counsel Opinion