



## Key messages: BlueGreen project Lindores Drive greenspace, Tranent

What is important to us about a play space? What makes it friendly and welcoming? What should be done differently?

These are some of the questions explored by children with additional support needs (ASN) from Sanderson's Wynd Primary School and Ross High.

We used creative, fun and participatory methods to get to know the greenspace on Lindores Drive, Tranent and to think about what matters for designing an inclusive play space.

The children showcased their findings by inviting colleagues from East Lothian Council, including Amenity Services and Planning departments, to join a session ahead of the play park development. The children asked for their views and ideas to be taken into account in the brief for the play space and to be kept informed about the design.

You can find out more in a short film made by the children, which is on the [Make Space to Play](#) page of the Choose Play website.

### Summary points

**Biodiversity and looking after the environment** - use of natural materials, encouraging biodiversity and being mindful of wildlife are important. The older children were especially knowledgeable about the impact humans can have on an area.

**Sensory play** - sensory play with sand, water and natural loose parts were the most inclusive options for children, particularly when they were at an accessible height for wheelchair users.

**Swings and movement** - across all age groups, swinging on hammocks allowed some children to relax and regulate how they were feeling. When coming up with ideas for a play park most children favoured swings.

**Role play** - making shops, cafes and takeaways were popular and provided an opportunity to include social play.

**Meeting and seating** - older pupils discussed the importance of safe spaces to meet friends along with good quality seats and tables.

**Smoother surfaces on the ground** - highlighted by both groups as important and especially for those with mobility differences.

“One child was worried about his wheels sinking into the grass on a rainy day and some areas of the park were inaccessible to some children. There is a lack of dropped kerbs in the area making access difficult, particularly as on one session a car was parked over the dropped kerb and navigating a build-up of leaves on pavements was also a challenge.”

**Lighting and safety measures** – good path networks and keeping the space well looked after were particularly important amongst the Ross High group.



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