



Playworks

Put your yard to work!

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Playworks

Rules

Yard Layout
and
organisation

Imaginative and
Independent
playing

Conflict
Management

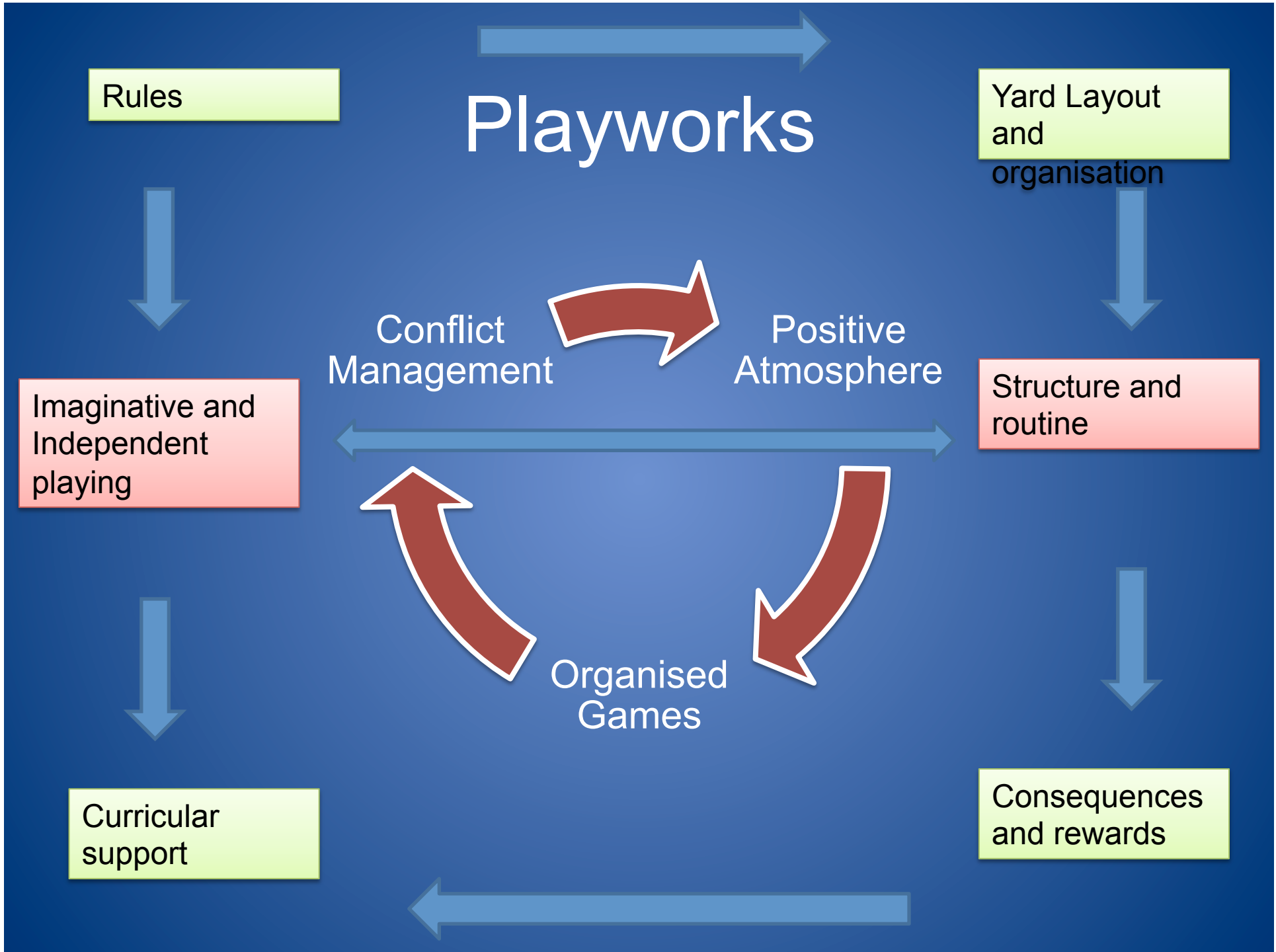
Positive
Atmosphere

Structure and
routine

Curricular
support

Consequences
and rewards

Organised
Games



Playworks is.....

- A semi-structured approach to organising yard time
- An American programme adapted to fit an Irish school
- Developed by a social entrepreneur
- Championed in Ireland by changex

Actually its just kids having fun



Playworks



It a nutshell

“It is about changing the environment and enhancing the features in order to modify or encourage behavioural change”

Positivity



Positive Atmosphere

- Chants and claps
- High Fives
- Warm up and cool downs

Which contributes to....

- Promoting an attitude of gratitude
- Supporting teachers giving quick and immediate praise
- Offering children lively ways to support their friends
- Keeping positivity at the centre of yard

Organised Games

- Short and snappy games
- All age ranges included (Junior / Senior split)
- Little to no equipment needed
- Lots of children can play over break (in / out system of games)
- Older children as coaches on a rota 'give back' to school by organising games

Organised Games



Which helps....

- Support increasing activity levels
- Support SEN and EAL children with access to structured and organised games
- Encourage generalisation of how to initiate, organise and manage a game
- Promote inclusion, competition, fair play and sports-ship

Conflict Resolution

- Rock / Paper / Scissors!!!
- Used for play based arguments
- Moves play along and keeps games moving
- Encourages children to not 'sweat the small stuff'

Conflict Resolution

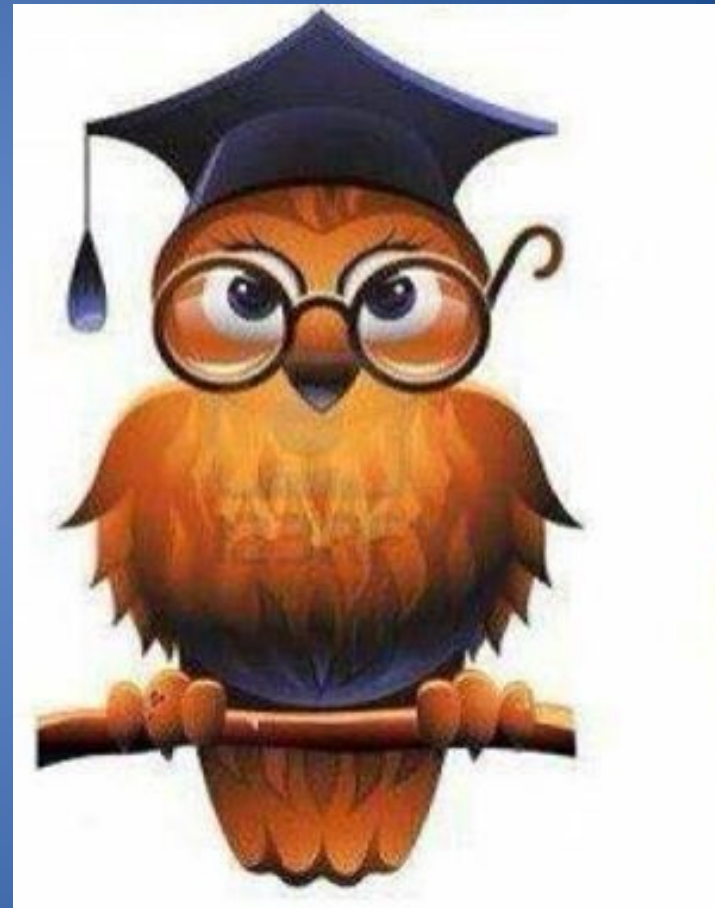


Ro / Sham / Bo !!!

Which contributes to...

- Supporting resilience – children begin to just get on with it and ‘pick their battles’
- Reducing tales
- Reducing arguments
- Increasing time spent playing
- Allowing teachers to concentrate on more serious issues

The Playworks transformation



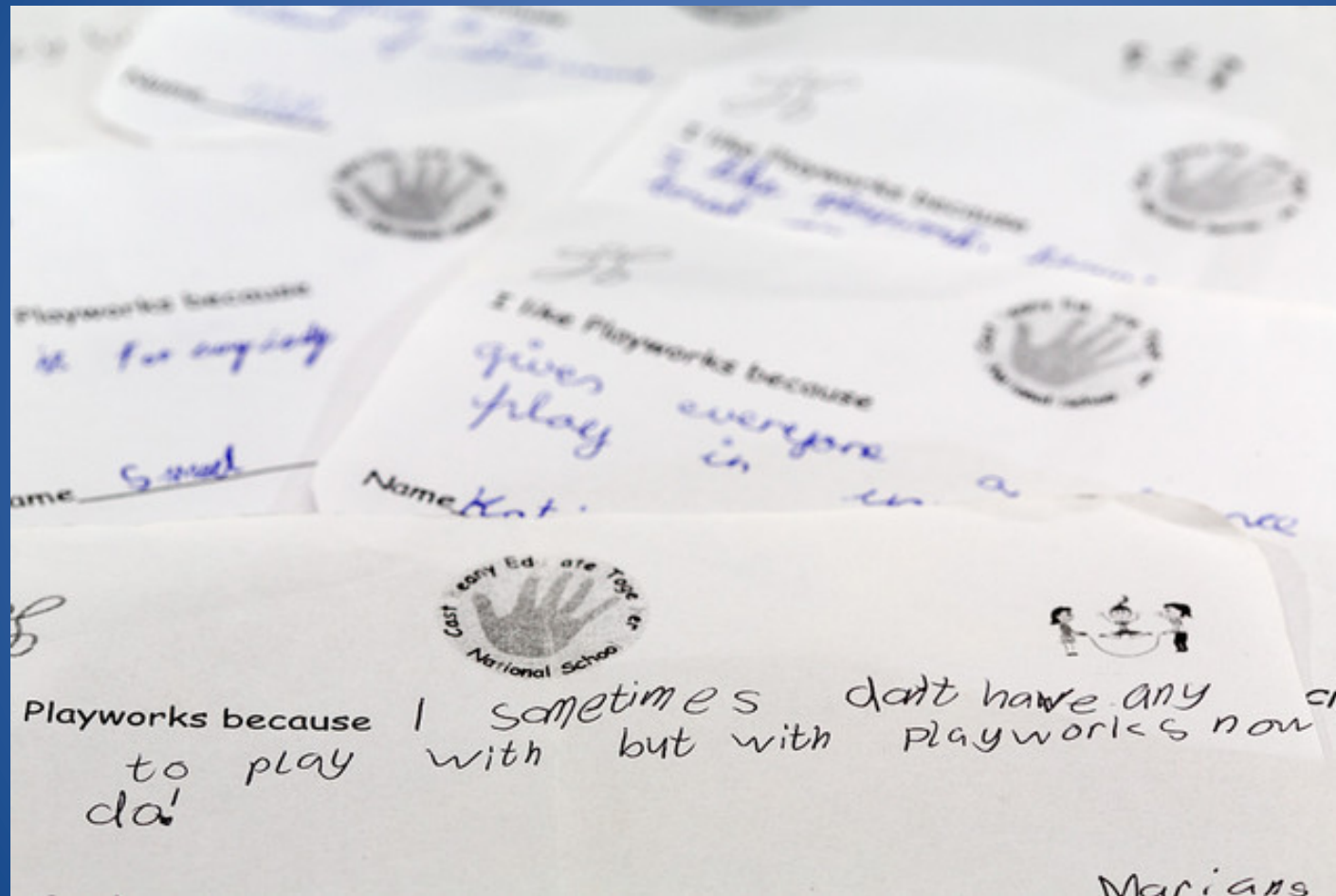
Playworks

- Puts children at the centre of yard time
- Is a preventative strategy for bullying
- A cohesive and planned approach to yard
- Contributes to the general health and wellbeing of the children (and teachers alike)
- Contributes to teaching and learning with less tales and more energy burnt on yard – kids are ready to work!

Playworks needs....

- Whole school commitment
- On-going support, input, monitoring and reflection
- Teachers to move from supervisors to facilitators of play
- You need to be okay with yard being busy!

What the kids say!

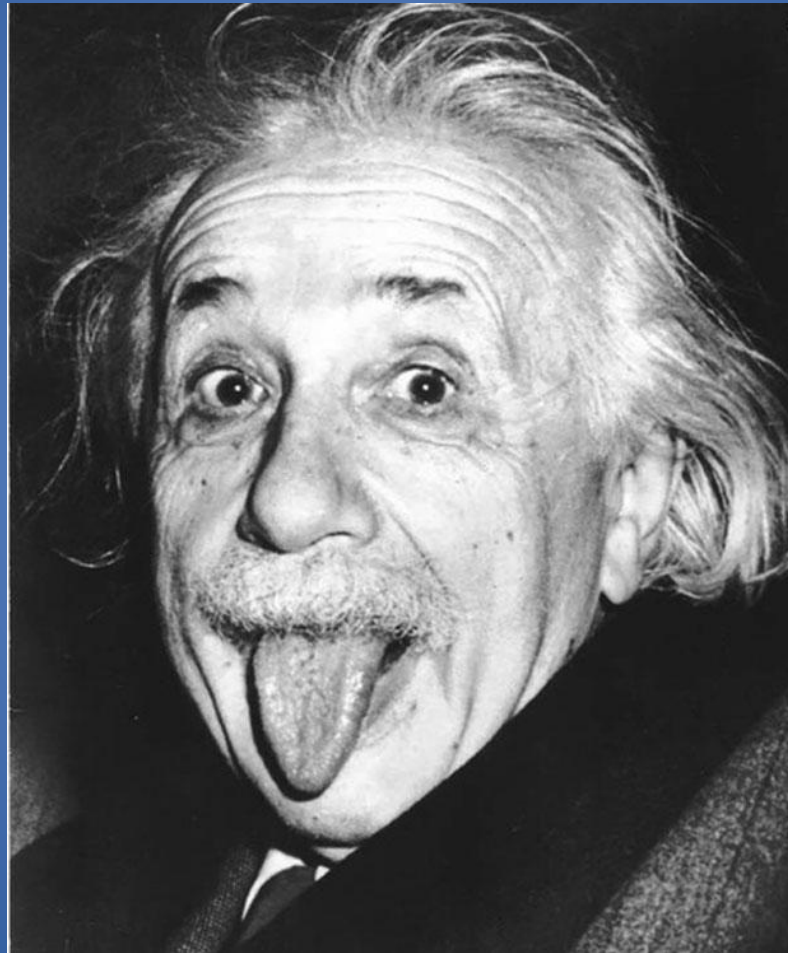


Playworks

- Its not an exact Science
- Yard is still busy and full of issues
- Workshop in my school if your interested!

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Albert Einstein



“Play is the highest form of research”