*Ulla Beag Play in line with Siolta Quality Standard 6*

*At Ulla Beag we promote play and allow each childample time to engage freely available and accessible, developmentally appropriate and well-resourced opportunities for exploration, creativity and ‘meaning making’ in the company of other children, with participating adults and alone where appropriate.*

*We have been awarded 2 national awards Early Childhood Awards ECI 2012 Innovation in Environmental Awareness and ECI 2016 Innovation in creative learning process.*

*In delivering a learning through play curriculum we meet the following compenents:*

*Component 6.1*

* *Children at Ulla Beag spend significant amount of time in the setting at play/exploration, and these other playful activities are central to the daily routine.*

*Component 6.2*

* *When the child is engaged in play/exploration, the equipment and materials provided are freely available and easily accessible to him/her.*

*Component 6.3*

* *The opportunities for play/exploration provided for the child mirror her/his stage of development, give the child the freedom to achieve mastery and success, and challenge the child to make the transition to new learning and development.*

*Component 6.4*

* *Each learning area and each activity has plenty of equipment and materials for the child*

*Component 6.5*

* *Play opportunities provided for the child encourage him/her to explore, to be creative and to use his /her previous learning to make new meanings.*

*Component 6.6*

* *The child has opportunities for play and exploration with other children, with participating and supportive adults on his/her own, as appropriate.*

*Component 6.7*

* *Opportunities for play/exploration are devised in conjunction with planning for the curriculum/ programme implementation, and are adapted to meet the changing learning and development requirements.*

**Indoor Play**

We provide a wide range of resources for indoor play appropriate to the ages and stages of the children's learning and development.  There are both free play and adult led activities on offer which includes, craft, messy play, construction and playing with the light box, dark den, and at the literacy & mathematics stations.

**Outdoor Play**

We are lucky enough to have access to lots of outdoor space and therefore we try to make use of this whenever possible, taking the learning outdoors.  Parents/carers are asked to ensure that their children are always appropriately dressed according to the weather (i.e.: raincoat, wellies, sunhat etc).

Whilst outside the children can visit the chickens; garden ; explore the environment (i.e. bug hunts), make dens out of both natural & man made resources.  Access sit on rides, balls, the playhouse, swings, discovery tray, mark making area's, sensory garden and sand/water pits.

Children learn through play and therefore our daily routine and environment has been designed to promote each area of the Aistear curriculum and learning through play.