



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

1 May 2026
Primary Opal Play



**THE
HESSLE
ACADEMY**

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Dear Parents/Carers

As part of our commitment to providing rich, engaging play opportunities for all children, we are continuing to develop our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) provision.

To support this, we are requesting donations of cardboard boxes and cardboard tubes. These materials will be used by the children during outdoor playtimes to build, create, design and imagine.

In addition, if anyone has any other large items that would be suitable for building and stacking, we would love to receive those too. Items that are lightweight, robust, and safe for outdoor use are particularly helpful and greatly valued.

Why these materials?

Loose parts such as boxes, tubes and large construction items are incredibly powerful tools for play. They:

- Encourage creativity, imagination and problem-solving
- Support teamwork, communication and negotiation
- Develop physical strength, coordination and balance
- Build confidence, independence and resilience
- Allow children to lead their own play and learning

OPAL play helps children return to class happier, calmer and more ready to learn.

How you can help:

If you are able to donate clean, safe cardboard or suitable large building items, please bring them to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. All donations should be free from sharp edges, staples or damage and suitable for outdoor play.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us create exciting and meaningful play opportunities for all our children.

Yours faithfully

Mrs S Hornby
Assistant Headteacher