

# Play Guide

2 - 3 YEARS

Where imagination runs wild!

WILLIAM'S  
**DEN**



# WELCOME TO WILLIAM'S DEN

*Where Imagination Runs Wild!*

We've created William's Den to be a place where children can explore freely, get creative, burn off energy, and just be kids. Whether they're climbing high in the indoor Den, splashing in the stream, building dens, or role-playing in our imaginative spaces, everything here is designed to encourage open-ended, child-led play.

Whether it's your first visit or your fiftieth, this guide is here to help you get the most out of your day. We know that every family is different—and some days, you might want a little help planning your time.

So if you're looking for a few ideas or a rough rhythm to your visit, we've pulled together some suggestions to get you started. Let your child lead the way, and remember—you don't have to do it all. The best kind of play often happens when you least expect it.



# PLAY ICONS

Every child plays differently, and our icons are here to help you get the most out of your time at William's Den. Whether your child loves to climb, create, pretend, solve problems or simply take things at their own pace, these symbols give a quick snapshot of what each activity offers. From natural play and healthy risk-taking to imaginative worlds and moments to recharge, they reflect the different ways children learn, grow and enjoy their time with us. Use them as a guide—or simply let the day unfold. There's no right or wrong way to play here.

NATURAL PLAY



HEALTHY RISK TAKING



1:1 PLAY



SOCIAL PLAY



ROLE PLAY



PROBLEM SOLVING



IMAGINATIVE



RECHARGE





# TOP TIPS FOR A GREAT DAY

## Where Imagination Runs Wild!

- Bring a spare change of clothes and a towel – our Rainmaker and water play areas are very popular (and wonderfully splashy!).
- In the summer months, don't forget suncream – we've got plenty of open space, and little explorers can be out all day.
- Book a table online in our Pizzeria – it's a popular spot! Or feel free to bring a packed lunch and enjoy it in our Outdoor Den picnic area.
- We cater for a range of dietary needs – our menu includes gluten-free, dairy-free and vegan options. Just ask if you're unsure.
- Our friendly mascot, William, makes appearances during the day – if your child is unsure around costumed characters, a heads-up might help avoid surprises.
- Let your child lead the way – there's no set route or right way to play. Whether it's full-speed adventure or slow-and-steady exploring, it's all part of the fun.





# AGES 2 - 3

This guide is tailored for children aged 2–3, but every child is different—and that’s exactly how we like it. Some toddlers are fearless climbers, while some older kids love nothing more than quiet, imaginative play. We’ve grouped activities based on common interests and play behaviours for this age, but feel free to dip into any part of William’s Den that sparks your child’s curiosity. Whether they’re racing down the zipline, pottering in the sand, exploring the woodland, or building a den, your child will find their own way to play—and we’re here for all of it. An adventurous two-year-old might surprise you. A thoughtful eight-year-old might prefer the quieter corners. And that’s the beauty of it. This guide is simply a starting point. Follow your child’s lead, explore together, and enjoy the freedom to play your own way.





# INDOORS





# INDOORS

## Sand play

Set at the base of our main play structure, little ones can enjoy watching the bigger kids above while safely playing at ground level. They'll love using our big sieves, scoops and buckets to move the sand around—perfect for sensory play and fine motor skills.

If they're feeling adventurous, they can help fill the buckets and watch them get pulled up high using our rope system, then giggle as the sand travels back down through chutes and tunnels built into the structure. It's a great space for calm, creative play—or a fun moment of action if they fancy a jump into the soft sand below (with you close by, of course!).

Whether they're pottering, pouring, or getting stuck in, this area offers plenty to explore at their own pace.

**Watch out near the bottom of the slide and bigger children coming down, also take care looking upwards on rope system.**





# INDOORS

## Water play

Our waterway, pump, stream, and rainmaker are a big hit with young explorers—and it's easy to see why. Little ones love trying their hand at pumping water into the first compartment (but might need some help from their grown -up), watching it build, then releasing it with a splash! From there, the water travels down the stream, inviting curious toddlers to follow it, splash beside it, and chase it all the way to the rainmaker. When the rainmaker is in action, it's pure joy—some children try to dodge the drips, while others stand proudly underneath and get absolutely soaked (and that's half the fun!). This area is full of sensory moments, movement, and magic—perfect for toddlers who love cause-and-effect play, water adventures, and getting wonderfully wet.

**Don't forget a change of clothes—you'll thank us later!**





# INDOORS

## Climbing

Our indoor spider's net is a web of fun that offers something different for every age and stage.

Little ones might use it to find their feet—climbing gently, crawling across the ropes, or just testing their balance with a helping hand. For older children, the net becomes a place to clamber, bounce, and even leap from, building confidence and coordination through active, physical play.

It's a brilliant spot for developing strength, movement and problem-solving skills, and it often becomes a hub for group games, imaginative play, or simply hanging out mid-climb.

**We do recommend that parents of smaller adventurers keep close by, especially during busier times, as older children may be climbing more freely and confidently.**





# INDOORS

## Bridges & Eagles nest

We have a number of bridges and nets throughout our indoor Den, offering plenty of playful ways for little ones to practise their balancing skills.

For under 4s, these features present just the right amount of challenge. Toddlers can test their coordination as they carefully step across wobbly bridges, feel the movement beneath their feet on netted walkways, or crawl along more stable sections with growing confidence.

These bridges and nets are great for developing balance, spatial awareness and core strength—all while feeling like a big adventure! Whether they're just starting out or already finding their stride, every crossing is a little victory.





# INDOORS

## Ancient Oak

Our Ancient Oak is a magical centrepiece in the heart of the Indoor Den—a place full of wonder and climbing possibilities.

For our youngest adventurers, we recommend close parental guidance when exploring this area. Inside the tree, there are nets to climb and big steps to navigate, which may be tricky for smaller legs. **With older children often clambering above, there's a chance of bumped heads or the occasional dangling foot—so staying close by ensures everyone plays safely.**

That said, there's still lots to enjoy! The surrounding branches and rope swing are open to all, offering lovely opportunities for shared play and gentle exploration with you by their side.





# INDOORS

## Tunnel slide

Our tunnel slide is a safe and exciting part of the William's Den experience, and it's open to all ages.

While it's perfectly safe, some younger children—especially under 5s—may prefer to have a grown-up waiting at the bottom, just in case they need a bit of reassurance (or a soft landing!).

It all comes down to confidence—some little ones might take a bit of coaxing, while others (yes, even fearless two-year-olds!) will be up and sliding again and again.

However your child feels, there's no pressure. It's all part of discovering what they enjoy and trying things in their own time. When they're ready, the tunnel slide offers a brilliant little rush of independence and fun!





# OUTDOORS





# OUTDOORS

## Preschool area

Our new toddler zone is full of natural, inclusive play designed just for little ones.

From the gentle slide and cosy hut to the bouncing flower, swinging horses, and mud kitchen, every feature encourages safe exploration, sensory play, and early movement skills.

Children can balance on the totter trail, crawl through Hobbit Hill, or enjoy quieter moments at the toddler's table and sound cushions.

It's the perfect space for little adventurers to build confidence, play freely, and have fun!





# OUTDOORS

## Den Building

Our den building area is a fantastic space for creative, hands-on play—but it's mainly geared towards older children who can lift, carry, and build with larger sticks and logs.

Younger children are very welcome to join in, but we do ask that they are closely supervised at all times. With excited older kids fully immersed in their building missions, they may not always be aware of smaller ones around them.

That said, little ones often love collecting smaller sticks, helping choose where to put them, or simply watching the big dens come to life. It's a great way to encourage teamwork, imagination, and outdoor exploration—just at their own pace, and with a grown-up close by.





# OUTDOORS

## Sand & Water Play

Our sand and water play area is a dream for under 4s—full of sensory fun, gentle adventure, and endless possibilities for imaginative play.

Little ones can explore our charming wooden hut, complete with a toddler-friendly slide.

Nearby, our hands-on water pump and rockery let children experiment with water flow—filling, tipping and guiding the stream through a natural landscape. It's a great way to introduce cause and effect, and a lovely cooling activity on warmer days.

And of course, the sand area is perfect for digging to their heart's content!

With something to climb, splash and discover, this area offers just the right balance of gentle challenges and open-ended fun—perfect for growing minds and little hands.





# OUTDOORS

## Crane Swing

Our crane swing is a big favourite at William's Den—a shared play experience that's as exciting or as relaxing as your child wants it to be.

Designed to hold multiple children at once, it's perfect for group fun, sibling teamwork, or making new friends. For those looking to test their bravery, it's a thrilling challenge to see just how high they can swing. For others, it's the perfect spot to sit back, be gently pushed, and enjoy a moment of calm mid-adventure.

Whether it's full of laughter or peaceful swaying, the crane swing offers a shared space for movement, connection, and just a little bit of magic.





# OUTDOORS

## Mountains & Molehills

Mountains and Molehills is an open-ended play area that everyone can enjoy in their own way.

For younger children, it's a chance to practise balancing with a grown-up close by—building confidence step by step as they navigate the gentle hills, beams, and tunnels.

For older kids, it quickly turns into the ultimate adventure zone—perfect for games of tig, hide and seek, or racing across the uneven ground.

With rolling mounds, secret spots, and plenty of space to roam, this patch of hilly terrain offers the freedom to play big, small, fast, or slow—whatever suits the moment.





# OUTDOORS

## Straw Bales - Summer only

Our straw bale stack is one of those unexpectedly brilliant play spots—you've never seen such excitement until a child spots it in the distance and runs straight for it!

Kids love climbing, jumping, chasing, and running across the bales, turning it into their own personal playground. It's a space that invites all kinds of play—testing out confidence, inventing new games, or simply enjoying the thrill of being up high.

It's perfect for all ages, with younger children benefiting from a helping hand or a watchful grown-up nearby. Whether they're taking their first leap or racing across the top, the straw bales deliver classic, joyful, no-rules play at its best.





# OUTDOORS

## Woodlands

Our private woodland walkways are open from spring to autumn and offer a peaceful escape into nature, with routes suited for both little and big legs.

Shaded, calm, and full of wildlife, it's the perfect spot to recharge and enjoy a relaxed wander away from the buzz of the main play areas. Take your time exploring the different paths—and keep your eyes peeled... can you find the hidden wild den building spot along the way?

Whether it's a gentle stroll or a mini-adventure, the woodlands are a lovely way to slow things down and connect with nature.





# WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR VISIT

