

# Play Guide

4 - 5 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 4 - 5

This guide is tailored for children aged 4-5, 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 beneath part of our main play structure, this space invites children to jump straight from the structure into the soft sand below, adding a splash of excitement to every descent. Kids can dig, scoop, and create using giant sieves, spades, and buckets—perfect for sensory exploration and hands-on fun.

One of the most-loved features is our bucket rally system. Fill a bucket with sand, haul it up using the pulley ropes, and then send it on a journey back down through a network of chutes, tunnels and tipping trays built into the play frame. It's brilliant for teamwork, problem-solving, and cause-and-effect learning—and above all, it's just really good fun.

Whether your child is building, climbing, digging or figuring things out, the indoor sand area brings physical play and creative thinking together in one big, brilliant, sandy adventure.





# INDOORS

## Water play

This age group loves getting hands-on—whether they're working the big water pump themselves, releasing the flow, or racing alongside it down the stream. The challenge of figuring out how the water travels, where it pools, and how fast it moves can keep them entertained for ages.

At the end of the stream, the mighty rainmaker brings the drama! Children can try to dodge the splashes, run through the “rainstorm,” or simply stand underneath it and soak up the fun. It's a brilliant spot for water-based role play (“Let's be storm explorers!”), group fun, or just cooling off on a warm day. Expect wet socks, big smiles, and plenty of excitement.

**Top tip: bring a towel and spare clothes—they'll likely need both!**





# 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

Our bridgeways are a brilliant challenge for 4–5 year olds who are growing in confidence and starting to venture out on their own.

These raised walkways and connecting routes help children navigate the indoor Den independently—testing their balance, coordination, and spatial awareness along the way.

For many in this age group, it's a chance to try something new without always holding a hand, while still knowing a grown-up is nearby if needed. Whether they're carefully taking their first steps across or racing to meet a friend on the other side, the bridgeways offer just the right mix of adventure and support.





# 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!





# INDOORS

## Hand swings

Our Hand Swings (inspired by classic 'Hang Tough' challenges!) are a great way for older children to build strength, coordination and confidence.

Children can swing from ring to ring, testing their upper body strength, grip, and timing as they make their way across. It's a brilliant activity for developing spatial awareness and core stability, and it's always a hit with kids who love a challenge. For younger children, this area may be a bit too tricky to tackle solo—but with a grown-up lending a hand, they might enjoy giving it a go or simply hanging from the rings to feel like part of the action.

It's all about having a try, testing limits, and cheering each other on!





# OUTDOORS





# OUTDOORS

## 30m & 50m Ziplines

Our 30m and 50m ziplines are a thrilling part of the William's Den experience—but whether your child is ready for them depends on their age, and their confidence.

For children under 5, it's important they understand how to hold on tightly and stay balanced—so while some little adventurers may be up for the challenge with close supervision, these ziplines are generally best suited for children aged 5 and up who can follow simple instructions and enjoy the ride safely.

That said, younger ones often love being part of the action in their own way—whether it's running alongside cheering, or helping to retrieve the seat and bring it back up the hill for the next go. It's a brilliant opportunity for teamwork, turn-taking, and shared fun—even if they're not quite ready to zoom just yet.





# OUTDOORS

## Den Building

For children aged 4 and up, our den building area is the perfect place to unleash their creativity, work as a team, and build something they can be proud of.

Using natural materials like sticks, branches, and logs, children can create hideouts, secret bases, or wild woodland shelters—whatever their imagination dreams up!

It's a brilliant activity for developing problem-solving skills, collaboration, and resilience as they figure out what works (and what doesn't!) through good old-fashioned trial and error.

Whether they're leading the build or helping to gather materials, den building gives kids a real sense of achievement—and the joy of saying, "We made that!"





# OUTDOORS

## Sand & Water Play

For children aged 4 and up, our sand and water play area is all about creativity, collaboration, and good old-fashioned messy fun.

While the wooden hut and slide may feel a little young for this age group, the real adventure lies in the water pump and rockery. Here, children can work together to control the water flow—pumping, guiding, and experimenting with how it moves through the rocks and channels.

It's the perfect setup for building elaborate sandcastles, digging winding moats, and turning ideas into reality through teamwork. Whether they're leading the build or teaming up with new friends, this area encourages problem-solving, imagination, and plenty of communication.





# 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

## Tyre Swings

Our tyre swings are a brilliant way for children aged 5 and up to enjoy some classic outdoor fun with a twist.

They're designed for kids who are confident holding on and ready to feel the thrill of spinning, swinging, and gliding through the air. Each swing hangs from its own space, carefully positioned to make sure they never bump into one another—so children can play side-by-side safely.

Whether they're spinning solo, seeing how high they can go, or just enjoying the rhythm of the swing, it's a timeless play experience that never gets old.





# 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

