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Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale

Education Committee

**6.5 Playing sociably and learning to share**

**Why is this important?  
Social play takes place in a natural environment, allowing children to  
develop and practise their communication skills. To be successful, children  
need to understand the rules of turn-taking and sharing. This forms the  
foundation of social-interaction skills for later life.**

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What to do  
• Provide opportunities for the child to engage in play activities with other children  
of similar ages by involving the child in playgroups, nursery school, parent and  
toddler groups and visiting places where other children play (e.g. the park).  
• Set up activities where two children can play together (e.g. home corner, playing  
shops, a simple game, taking turns to complete a puzzle).  
• Suggest things that one child could give to another (e.g. one child cooking, the  
other putting the doll to bed; suggest child one heats a bottle of milk for child two  
to give to doll).**