

Play & Learn Outdoors

from the canopy experts



Issue 4
March 2026

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WELCOME TO THE SPRING EDITION OF PLAY & LEARN OUTDOORS

Hello and welcome to the March edition of P&LO.

As we head into the first official month of spring, and say goodbye to winter, we have a bumper edition of Play & Learn Outdoors for you including a whole host of inspiration for your outdoor area.

You will also discover fundraisers that you can implement in the coming seasons, and tips to help you meet your funding goals.

There's lot's of outdoor lesson and play ideas you can takeaway into the warmer, brighter days of spring and summer.

If you enjoy reading P&LO, we'd love you to pass a copy onto your colleagues to also enjoy. If they would like to receive their own copies, email us at: marketing@ablecanopies.co.uk and we'll add them to the list.

Enjoy these warmer months and

spending time outdoors, and we'll be back in the summer with more ideas and inspiration.

Best Wishes

Tracy Meakins
Managing Director



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Become Part of the P&LO Facebook Group



It's so helpful to be part of a community of like-minded people who talk about something that interests you and supports your profession. However, being a teacher doesn't leave you with much time to go to regular meets outside of your career and personal life. That's why we have created a Facebook group where you can meet

like-minded teachers and education specialists online to discuss any ideas and tips you have for outdoor play and learning ideas, all from the comfort of your home or staff room.

The idea of this online group is so you can gather and share ideas, discuss what has worked for you enabling you to hold outdoor sessions that work out perfectly for both you and your pupils.

We'll also be sharing weekly posts with lot's of outdoor play and learning ideas.

How can you join the group? If you have a Facebook profile, it's really simple, search **Outdoor Play & Learning Ideas for Schools UK** in Facebook, click the join button, answer the questions, hit submit, and you're in!

Alternatively, scan the QR code here:



10 THINGS OUR CANOPIES DON'T DO

I often boast about all the incredible features our canopies possess, but I rarely go into detail about what they don't do. I am therefore flipping the narrative and providing you with a list of all the things our canopies *don't* do, focusing on the Coniston Canopy, which can be supplied as a wall mounted or freestanding canopy.

The Coniston Wall Mounted Canopy & What it Doesn't Do:

1. The Roof Panels Will Not Turn Yellow

You may find that some canopy structures will feature roof panels that turn yellow over time from sun exposure.

Our polycarbonate panels will never do that, they are co-extruded with a UV layer to prevent that from happening, leaving you with fresh-looking panels for many, many years to come.

2. It Won't Be Inflexible in Design

The Coniston features our most flexible design; it will not fail to cater to your needs, it will not refuse to fit around the internal and external corners of your building, and it will not refuse to try and accommodate any obstacles.

3. It Won't Rust or Rot

Featuring a fully aluminium frame which is a naturally rust resistant material, the Coniston will not rust or rot.

4. It Won't Limit You on Length

It won't tell you the maximum length your canopy can be, and it won't leave you with a disappointing projection.

The Coniston has an unlimited length so you can keep going to suit your requirements. It also features an impressive projection of up to 6 metres.

5. It Won't Look Plain

Your canopy won't be plain, unless you want it to be of course.

The Coniston is available with so many options and upgrades you can completely personalise it.

6. The Gutter Won't Start to Sag and Come Away Over Time

The guttering along the front of the canopy won't start to sag or come away over time from weight of debris such as leaves and soil.

This is because it is manufactured from aluminium and is integrated into the canopy roof frame, making a much stronger, robust guttering system.

7. The Roof Panels Won't Break Easily

They'll be no worrying about having inferior, flimsy roof panels that will break easily.

The Coniston is covered with polycarbonate panels that are vandal and shatter resistant.

8. It Won't Leave You Unprotected from the Sun's UV Rays

Whilst additional sun protection such as sunscreen is always encouraged, you won't be left with zero protection whilst under your canopy.

The polycarbonate roof panels protect from over 98% of the sun's harmful UV rays, making the area under the canopy a much safer place to be on hot, sunny days.

9. It Won't Fall Apart

You won't be investing your funds in a cheap canopy that's not built to last.

The Coniston's design is not inferior at all; it is strong and robust and is built to stand the test of time. We don't expect you to just take our word for it, that's why all Coniston canopies are supplied with a 10-year guarantee and up to a 25-year life expectancy.

10. It Won't Disappoint You

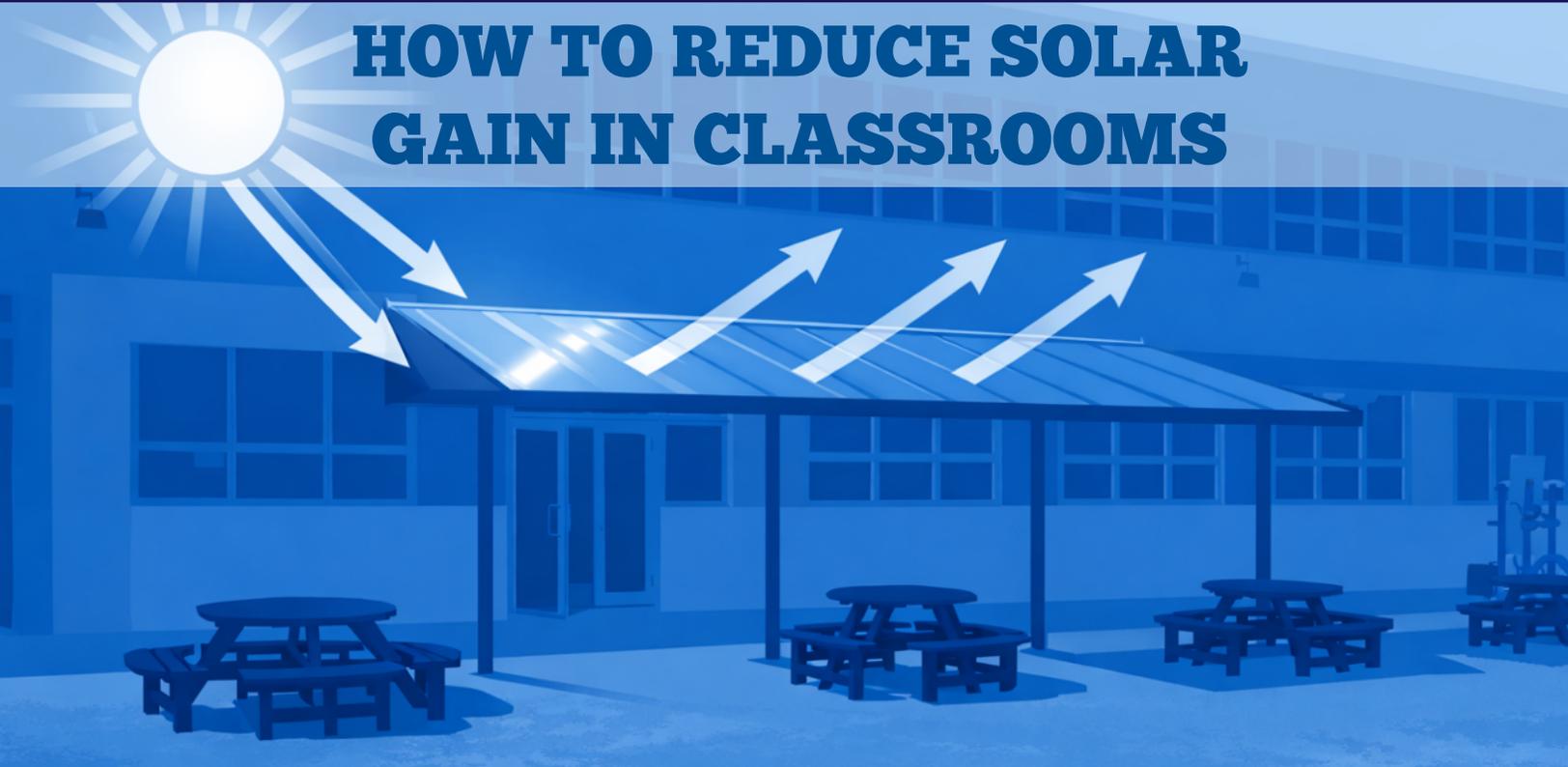
You won't be left disappointed with the Coniston canopy.

We have thousands of feedback from our customers over the last 20 years that love the Coniston and only have good things to say about it such as "fabulous Canopy", "very good quality", "expert installation", "fantastic product", "fantastic price", "all of my staff who have seen the canopy are impressed", "the children love the [canopy] area".

To find out more about the Coniston visit:

www.ablecanopies.co.uk/coniston

HOW TO REDUCE SOLAR GAIN IN CLASSROOMS



Managing classroom temperature is an ongoing challenge for many schools, particularly in buildings with large areas of glazing or south-facing elevations. Excessive solar gain in classrooms can lead to overheating, discomfort, and increased energy costs due to the use of air conditioning and heating systems.

Installing wall mounted canopies for academies is a proven and cost-effective way to control solar gain, improve thermal comfort, and reduce long-term energy expenditure.

What Is Solar Gain, and Why Is It a Problem for Schools and Academies?

Solar gain refers to the increase in internal temperature caused by sunlight entering a building through windows and glazed doors. In classrooms, this can quickly result in:

- Overheating during spring and summer
- Increased reliance on air conditioning or electric cooling
- Higher energy bills
- Reduced pupil concentration and staff comfort
- Glare affecting whiteboards, screens, and digital learning

As schools and academies work to improve

sustainability and manage tight operational budgets, reducing solar gain has become an important consideration for estates and facilities teams.

How Wall Mounted Canopies Reduce Solar Gain in Classrooms

Wall mounted canopies are fixed directly to the exterior of a building, typically above classroom windows, doors, or glazed façades. Their primary function is to provide effective solar shading before sunlight reaches the glass.

Blocking Direct Sunlight

By preventing direct sunlight from striking classroom windows, **wall mounted canopies significantly reduce heat buildup inside teaching spaces**. This helps maintain a more comfortable and stable internal temperature throughout the school day.

High UV Protection

Modern canopy roofing systems provide high levels of UV protection, filtering harmful ultraviolet rays. This not only **improves comfort for pupils and staff** but also protects classroom furniture, flooring, and equipment from fading and sun damage.

Thermal Performance and Light Diffusion

Many canopy systems use materials with thermal properties that diffuse daylight rather than allowing harsh sunlight to penetrate the building. This ensures classrooms still **benefit from natural light without the associated heat and glare.**

Reducing Energy Bills and Improving Energy Efficiency

One of the key advantages of installing wall mounted canopies at schools and academies is the impact on energy consumption.

By reducing solar gain:

- **Classrooms stay cooler naturally** during warmer months
- **The need for air conditioning and portable cooling units is reduced**
- Heating systems work more efficiently due to **improved temperature regulation**
- Overall **electricity and heating costs are lowered**

For multi-academy trusts managing multiple sites, these savings can add up to a significant reduction in annual energy spending.

Supporting Comfortable Learning Environments All Year Round

Thermal comfort is essential for effective teaching and learning. Fluctuating classroom temperatures can negatively impact concentration, behaviour, and productivity.

Wall mounted canopies help schools and academies create:

- **More consistent internal temperatures**
- **Reduced glare on teaching surfaces**
- Improved learning conditions all year round
- A calmer and more comfortable classroom environment

Additional Benefits of Wall Mounted Canopies for Schools and Academies

In addition to controlling solar gain, wall mounted canopies also provide:

- **Weather protection for entrances** and circulation routes
- Covered outdoor transition areas for pupils and staff
- **Improved building appearance** and professional presentation
- **Extended lifespan of doors, windows,** and external finishes
- A low-maintenance, long-term solution for school estates

A Sustainable Solution for Schools

With increasing focus on sustainability, energy efficiency, and carbon reduction, wall mounted canopies support academies and schools in meeting environmental objectives. By reducing reliance on mechanical heating and cooling, they offer a passive solution that **delivers both financial and environmental benefits.**

Conclusion

Wall mounted canopies are an effective way for academies to manage solar gain in classrooms, reduce energy costs, and improve learning environments. By blocking direct sunlight, providing high UV protection, and enhancing thermal performance, they help schools **create comfortable, all-weather teaching spaces while supporting long-term sustainability goals.**

For schools and academy trusts looking to improve energy efficiency and classroom comfort, wall mounted canopies represent a practical and proven investment.

Would you like to reduce solar gain in your school?

Contact us today to find out how our canopies can help you to achieve your goals and contribute towards reducing your energy bills.

0800 389 9072 | sales@ablecanopies.co.uk

CASE STUDY: BRACKENFIELD SEND SCHOOL

CLASSROOM SHELTER FOR OUTDOOR PLAY & LEARNING

Product: Four Coniston Wall Mounted Canopies

Sizes: 4.9m x 4.2m, 9.7m x 2.6m, 10m x 3.5m & 15m x 4m

Frame Colour: Ultramarine Blue – RAL 5002

Installation Date: April 2025 and September 2025

Installation Duration: 6 days

Intended Use: Classroom canopies for outdoor play and learning

Brackenfield SEND School provides education to pupils from the ages of 3-16 with complex learning, communication, and physical needs. Rated outstanding in all inspection areas, they cater for children across the south of Derbyshire.

During 2025, we supplied and installed a total of four canopies to help them further enhance their facilities by creating dry, sheltered areas where their children can play and learn outside all year round.

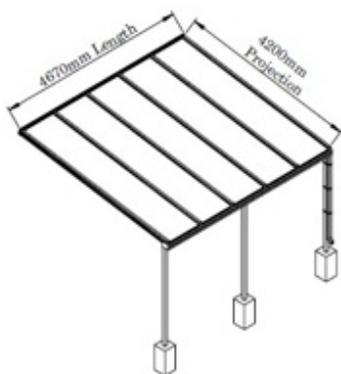
Canopies One, Two and Three

Initially, the school contacted us in December, as they were looking to provide shade and shelter outside their Acorn, Maple, and Rowan classrooms.

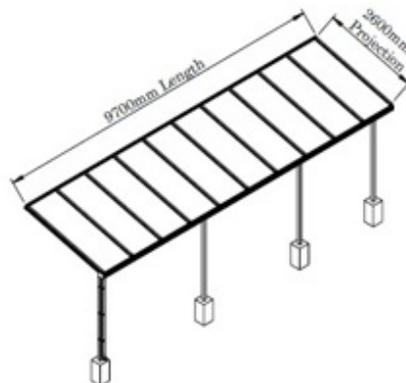
After carrying out a full site survey, it was discovered that the Coniston Wall Mounted Canopy would be the perfect solution for all three areas due to a number of reasons. The first is that they had suitable walls to install onto. Also, the Coniston offers all

the features the school required, such as high UV protection, a strong, long-lasting frame that is guaranteed for 10 years and also features a 25-year life expectancy, integral guttering for a sleek appearance and minimal maintenance, and so much more.

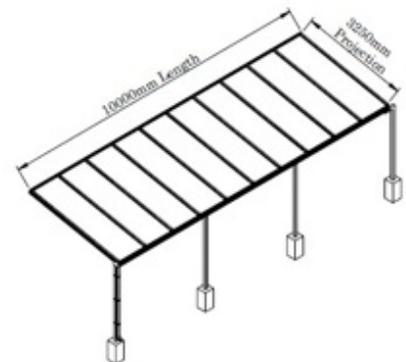
The staff at the school were very impressed by the Coniston and its features and agreed that it would be the perfect shade and shelter structure for their needs and requirements.



Above: Canopy Design for the Acorn Classroom



Above: Canopy Design for the Maple Classroom



Above: Canopy Design for the Rowan Classroom

When ordering the canopies, which were 4.9m x 4.2m, 9.7m x 2.6m and 10m x 3.5m, they opted for the canopy frame and posts to be powder coated in Ultramarine Blue (RAL 5002) to match their school branding colours.

All three canopies were installed during the Easter holidays in April as chosen by the school. The installation went ahead as planned with no problems along the way.

Canopy Four

Shortly after the canopies were installed, the school got back in touch, as they required another canopy to cover the area outside their Laurel and Willow classrooms.

Choosing a canopy this time round was much easier, as they knew they'd like the same canopy to match the other three, not only for the aesthetics but also because they were impressed with the quality.

This canopy was the largest of all four, measuring 15m x 4m and fitted in perfectly with the other structures, leaving the school with shade and shelter outside five of their classrooms for their pupils and teachers to enjoy the outdoors all year round.



CASE STUDY: COLEG CAMBRIA, WREXHAM

OUTDOOR CLASSROOMS FOR PRACTICAL LESSONS

Product: Two Coniston Apex Free Standing Canopies

Sizes: 17m X 8m and 14m x 8m

Frame Colour: Steel Grey – RAL 7001

Installation Date: July 2024

Installation Duration: 10 days

Intended Use: Outdoor classrooms for practical classes

Coleg Cambria is a leading UK education provider with various sites across Wales. They offer a broad and inclusive curriculum from GCSEs to further education and apprenticeships. They also support education at HMP Berwyn as part of Novus Cambria.

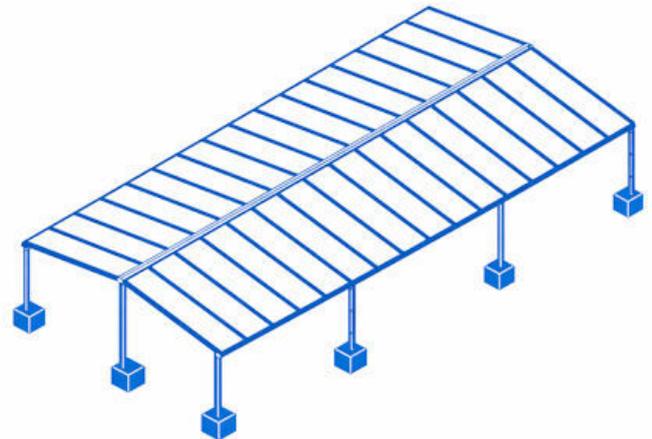
Their Bersham Road site in Wrexham boasts some of the best facilities in the region, educating their students in many hands-on skills such as:

- Engineering Technology
- Motor Vehicle Mechanics
- Plumbing and Heating
- Brickwork
- Electronics
- Fabrications and Welding
- Painting and Decorating
- Plastering

The Brief

The Bersham site was undergoing an £8.5m redevelopment which included new state-of-the-art facilities such as the need for two canopies to provide shade and shelter to their outdoor building and construction department.

The architects working on the project approached us for a cost for two Welford Dome Free Standing Canopies to cover the paving and brick construction areas so they could make use of them in all weather conditions.



Above: The production CAD drawing - Coniston Apex Free Standing Canopy

Proposal

After discussions regarding size requirements and budgets that matched, we offered them an alternative option of a product that had not yet been formally launched – the Coniston Apex Free Standing Canopy which suited their requirements perfectly.

The project was then put on hold, and the rest of the redevelopment was completed. However, the college got back in touch with us when they were ready to go ahead.

Installation

The college placed an order for a 17m X 8m and a 14m x 8m Coniston Apex Free Standing Canopy.

The installation of both canopies was completed 32 days after the order was signed, leaving the college with a quick turnaround, enabling us to install the canopy within the summer holidays as desired.



The completed canopies look fantastic and product the college with a total of 248 square metres of shade and shelter outdoors.



Rainy Days: On average the UK experiences around 164 days of rain each year, that's 164 days of outdoor practical lessons that will no longer be rained off each year for Coleg Cambria's building and construction department.



THREE SPRING/SUMMER FUNDRAISERS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

With the busiest fundraising period of the year now behind us, it is the ideal time to look ahead and begin planning your spring and summer fundraising events. Warmer weather, longer days, and increased outdoor activity make this season perfect for bringing communities together while raising valuable funds for your school or organisation.

To help you get started, we have put together three popular and proven Spring/Summer Fundraisers for the Year Ahead.

Music and Dance Festival

For schools looking to host a larger event, a music and dance festival can be a fantastic option. While this type of fundraiser does require more planning, the potential returns can be significant.

Local bands, dance schools, and performance groups are often keen to gain exposure and may be happy to perform at a reduced rate or even free of charge for a non-profit event. Parents and family members may also be involved in local groups and willing to take part.

Revenue can be generated through ticket sales, food and drink stalls, and additional attractions such as games or children's activities. This creates an inclusive event that appeals to the whole family while maximising fundraising potential.



Coffee and Cake Sale

A coffee and cake sale is a simple yet highly effective fundraiser that appeals to all ages. Hosting the event over a weekend and offering a range of hot and cold drinks alongside homemade cakes and biscuits is a guaranteed crowd-pleaser.

Cake donations can be requested from parents, grandparents, and staff members, or you may wish to involve your school catering team. Not only does this reduce costs, but it also encourages community involvement.

If the initial event is well attended, consider running it on a regular basis, such as monthly. This helps to build a sense of community by providing a welcoming space for people to socialise, while also creating a reliable source of ongoing fundraising income.



Craft and Country Fair

Craft and country fairs continue to grow in popularity, with more people choosing to support local makers and producers. These events provide an excellent opportunity for small businesses to showcase their products while offering visitors a unique and enjoyable shopping experience.

Although organising a fair requires careful planning, it is no more demanding than a traditional summer fête. With effective promotion, you can attract visitors from both the local area and further afield, increasing footfall and fundraising opportunities.

Stallholder fees, refreshments, and additional attractions all contribute to making this a profitable and rewarding event.





As schools continue to balance rising costs with the need to improve facilities, 2026 presents a valuable opportunity to plan strategically and invest with confidence. Whether the objective is enhancing outdoor learning areas, improving pupil flow between buildings, or installing a durable school canopy or outdoor shelter, effective funding planning is key to delivering long-term value.

By setting clear funding goals and aligning them with your school's development priorities, projects such as weather protection can be delivered efficiently while supporting pupil wellbeing and staff comfort.

Clearly Define Your Funding Requirements

The first step in navigating school funding goals in 2026 is to clearly identify what funding is required. This includes outlining each proposed project and calculating the total cost involved. School canopies and outdoor shelters, for example, may vary in scope depending on size, location, and intended use.

Obtaining accurate quotations early allows schools to budget

realistically and plan with confidence. It is also advisable to include a contingency within your budget to account for potential cost increases or unexpected requirements during the project lifecycle.

Prioritise Long-Term Outdoor Improvements

When reviewing funding needs, it is important to consider investments that offer long-term benefits. School canopies and outdoor shelters provide year-round weather protection, support outdoor learning, and improve access between buildings, making them a practical and cost-effective solution.

By prioritising permanent, low-maintenance structures, schools can maximise the return on their investment while creating safer, more functional outdoor spaces for pupils, staff, and visitors.

Review Previous Funding Performance

Reflecting on previous funding achievements can provide a useful benchmark when planning for

2026. Assess what has been successfully funded in recent years and compare this against your current requirements.

If a gap is identified between past performance and future goals, consider whether projects can be phased or delivered in stages. This approach can make larger investments, such as school canopy installations, more manageable while maintaining progress.

Plan Fundraising and Budget Allocation Strategically

Effective funding relies on planning across the full academic and financial year. Map out fundraising activities, grants, and budget allocations in advance, assigning realistic targets to each based on previous results.

Breaking your overall funding objective into smaller, achievable milestones helps maintain momentum and allows progress to be monitored throughout the year. This structured approach supports informed decision-making and helps ensure key projects remain on track.

Final Thoughts

Navigating school funding goals in 2026 requires careful planning, clear priorities, and a focus on long-term value. By defining funding requirements, learning from previous performance, and prioritising practical investments such as school canopies and outdoor shelters, schools can create safer, more versatile environments for their communities.

With a clear strategy in place, funding ambitions can be successfully transformed into completed projects that support learning, wellbeing, and day-to-day school operations.

25 YEARS OF LEARNING, LAUGHTER, DEVELOPMENT AT YOUR SCHOOL

When investing in a school canopy, durability matters. Many of our commercial-grade canopies are designed with life expectancies of up to 25 years—but what does that really mean for a school community?

It is more than a structural lifespan. It represents 25 years of learning, laughter, development, and opportunity—all made possible through the simple addition of reliable outdoor shelter.

25 Years of Lunchtimes in the Fresh Air

A well-designed canopy transforms outdoor dining spaces into practical, year-round environments. Over 25 years, that could mean:

- Thousands of pupils enjoying lunch outside
- Healthier eating habits encouraged by fresh air
- Reduced congestion inside dining halls
- A calmer, more enjoyable lunchtime experience

Outdoor dining spaces help schools maximise existing space without the need for costly building extensions.

25 Years of Rosy Cheeks and Smiling Faces

Outdoor play is vital to child development. With dependable shelter in place, playtime does not have to stop when the weather changes.

Over 25 years, a canopy supports:

- Continuous outdoor play, even during light rain
- Safe shaded areas during warmer months
- Physical development through active play
- Improved mental well-being from time spent outdoors

A canopy ensures the playground remains a usable, engaging environment throughout the academic year.

25 Years of Outdoor Learning Opportunities

The modern curriculum increasingly embraces outdoor education. A fixed canopy creates a versatile, sheltered extension of the classroom.

Across 25 years, this could provide:

- Thousands of outdoor lessons
- Creative arts and messy play sessions without weather concerns
- Reading corners and breakout learning zones
- Covered areas for group activities and presentations

Outdoor learning spaces encourage engagement, creativity, and focus, while offering teachers valuable flexibility.

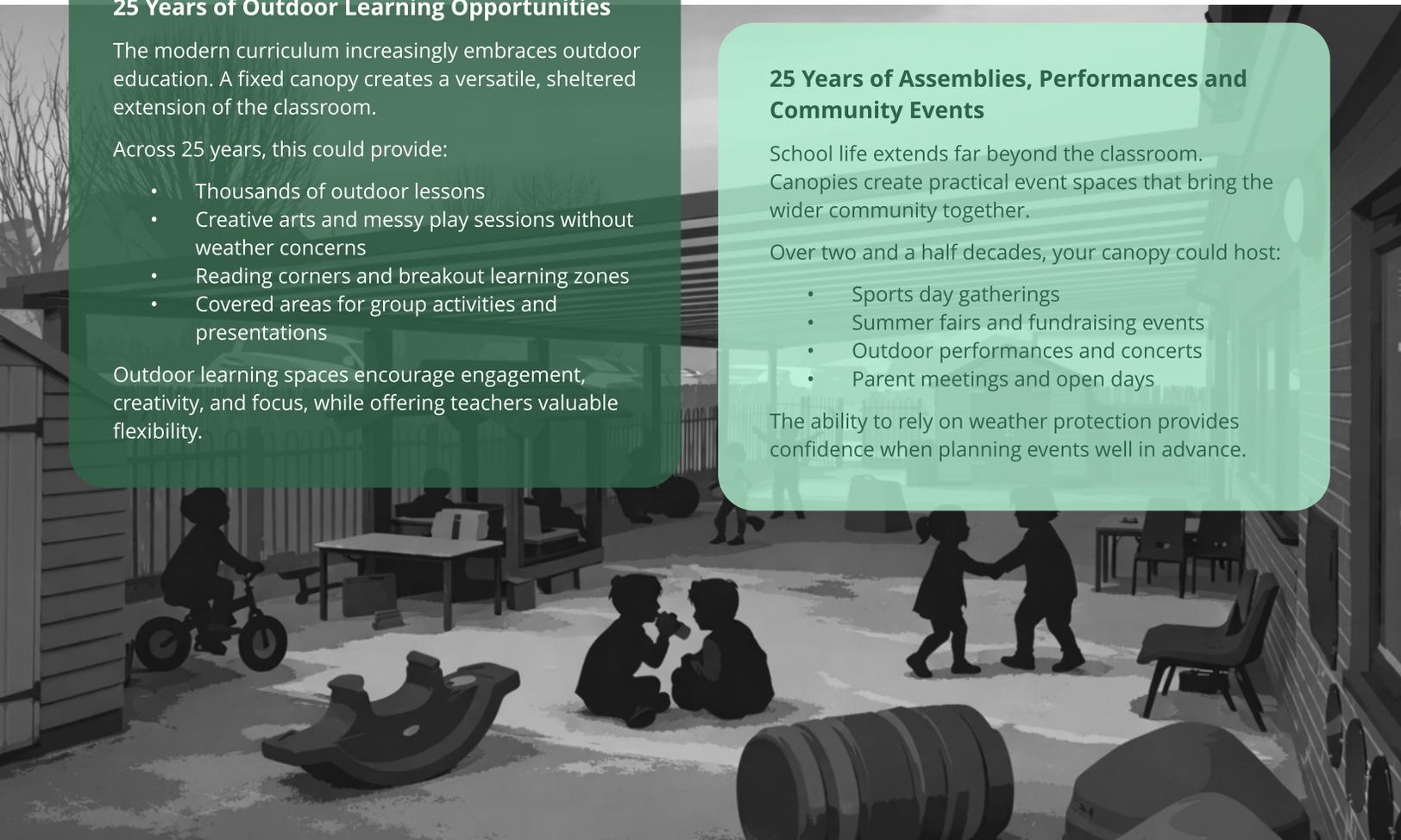
25 Years of Assemblies, Performances and Community Events

School life extends far beyond the classroom. Canopies create practical event spaces that bring the wider community together.

Over two and a half decades, your canopy could host:

- Sports day gatherings
- Summer fairs and fundraising events
- Outdoor performances and concerts
- Parent meetings and open days

The ability to rely on weather protection provides confidence when planning events well in advance.



25 Years of Protection for Pupils and Assets

In addition to supporting activities, canopies provide long-term protection for both people and property.

This includes:

- UV protection during hot weather
- Shelter from wind and rain
- Protection for outdoor equipment and furniture
- Reduced wear and tear on playground markings

A high-quality canopy helps preserve school resources while creating a safer, more comfortable environment.

25 Years of Smart Financial Planning

For schools operating within strict budgets, long-term value is essential. A canopy with a 25-year life expectancy represents:

- Predictable, long-term return on investment
- Reduced maintenance concerns
- A sustainable alternative to permanent building extensions
- Improved use of existing outdoor space

Rather than a short-term solution, it becomes part of the school's infrastructure for generations.

One Installation, A Generation of Impact

Twenty-five years equates to an entire generation of children passing through your gates. During that time, a canopy becomes more than a structure—it becomes a familiar part of daily school life.

From first-day nerves in reception to their prom in their final years, the space beneath the canopy witnesses countless milestones.

Investing in a long-life canopy is not simply about shelter. It is about creating opportunity—every day, in every season, for years to come.



SPRING PLANNING GUIDE:

HOW TO PREPARE OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACES FOR THE SUMMER TERM

Although it's a little chilly, you can feel spring on its way, and as winter begins to fade and the days grow longer, schools turn their attention to the opportunities that the summer brings.

Warmer weather encourages increased outdoor activity, from curriculum delivery and playtimes to sports days, performances, and community events. However, maximising these opportunities requires early planning to ensure outdoor spaces are safe, functional, and accessible in all year round.

By using the spring term as a preparation period, schools can implement improvements that enhance learning, well-being, and engagement throughout the summer and beyond.

Review Existing Outdoor Provision

The first step in preparing for increased outdoor use is to evaluate how current spaces are performing. Many schools discover that areas of their playground or grounds remain underused due to weather exposure, lack of structure, or limited supervision visibility.

A practical review may include:

- Identifying spaces that are avoided during rain or strong sun
- Assessing whether outdoor areas support curriculum delivery
- Gathering feedback from teaching staff and midday supervisors
- Observing how pupils naturally interact with different zones

This evaluation often highlights opportunities to transform overlooked areas into valuable learning environments with relatively simple enhancements.

Prioritise Multi-Purpose Outdoor Spaces

Modern school environments benefit from flexibility. Rather than designing outdoor areas for a single activity, you could create a multi-use zone that supports learning, social interaction, and enrichment activities.

Examples of adaptable outdoor spaces include:

- Covered outdoor classrooms
- Sheltered social areas for calm play and interaction
- Performance spaces for assemblies, music & drama
- Flexible breakout areas supporting small group work
- Covered outdoor dining

Multi-purpose design ensure maximum value from investments while accommodating pupil needs throughout the academic year.

Plan for Weather Resilience

Despite the appeal of warmer months, UK weather remains unpredictable. Rain showers, high temperatures, and strong sun exposure can all disrupt outdoor provision if environments are not appropriately designed.

Planning for weather resilience enables schools to maintain consistent access to outdoor spaces by:

- Providing shelter from rainfall to reduce indoor crowding
- Creating shaded zones that protect pupils during hotter periods
- Supporting supervision through clearly defined covered areas
- Encouraging year-round outdoor learning rather than seasonal use

Weather-resilient environments not only increase usability but also contribute to calmer transitions, improved behaviour and enhanced pupil comfort.

Prepare for Summer Activities and Events

The summer term typically brings a variety of outdoor events that benefit from well-planned environments. From sports days and transition activities to fairs and celebrations, accessible outdoor spaces allow schools to host inclusive and enjoyable experiences for pupils, staff and families.

Advance preparation supports:

Reliable event scheduling without weather disruption

Increased participation from all pupils

Improved visitor experiences during school events

Opportunities for community use and potential fundraising

By implementing improvements during the spring term, schools position themselves to fully embrace these seasonal opportunities.

THREE IDEAS FOR NATURAL ITEMS FOR NEXT TERM

Using natural items in your early years or school setting is not only enjoyable for children but also highly beneficial for their development. Natural materials encourage creativity, support sensory exploration, and help children better understand the world around them. When incorporated into everyday activities, these resources can play a valuable role in supporting learning, self-expression, and well-being.

Below are three practical and engaging ideas for using natural items in your setting next term.

1. Natural Art Activities

Natural art involves creating artwork using items found outdoors, such as leaves, stones, twigs, or bark. These activities allow children to explore creativity while developing fine motor skills and imaginative thinking.

Working with natural textures also supports sensory learning, helping children understand concepts such as rough and smooth surfaces, weight, and shape. Activities such as leaf collages, stone painting, or building small structures from twigs encourage problem-solving and experimentation while allowing children to express themselves freely.

3. Natural Treasures for Sensory Exploration

Collecting natural treasures during outdoor walks can be a valuable learning opportunity in itself. Items such as feathers, smooth stones, seed pods, or leaves can be used for exploration, storytelling, or sensory play.

Natural materials are particularly effective for younger children, who often learn through touch before visual recognition. Handling a variety of natural objects helps develop sensory awareness and supports early language development as children describe what they feel and see.

2. Loose Parts and Early Math

Loose parts are open-ended materials that children can move, arrange, and use in different ways. Natural loose parts might include pebbles, pine cones, conkers, shells, or sticks. These items are ideal for combining play-based learning with early math skills.

Simple activities such as counting stones, sorting items by size or colour, or creating patterns can help reinforce number recognition and basic mathematical concepts. Loose parts can also be incorporated into creative play, supporting both cognitive development and imagination.

Able Canopies: The Canopy Experts



A bespoke Coniston Wall Mounted Canopy installed at Carew Academy in Surrey

Canopies & Covered Walkways

Cycle & Waiting Shelters

Shade Sails & Tensile Structures

Awnings & Playground Accessories

External Works: Surfacing, Fencing etc.

Able Canopies are the canopy experts. We provide safe and stylish weather protection that transforms outside spaces.

- Every year we complete hundreds of successful school canopy installations across the UK
- These canopies provide schools with effective shelter & areas for outdoor learning and dining
- We also work with universities and the retail, leisure & hospitality sectors to effectively transform outside space
- Our team of canopy experts work with schools, architects & contractors to ensure on time, on budget, project completion
- To ensure consistent high quality we control the design, manufacture & installation process of our canopies

“Very happy with the service and installation. On time and no issues.”

- Burnt Ash Primary School,
Installed October 2025

If you would like a canopy, shelter or shade sail quotation, contact us today:

Call: 0800 389 9072 | **Email:** sales@ablecanopies.co.uk



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To read our privacy policy, please visit: www.ablecanopies.co.uk/privacy-policy/