

What Happens during a session ?

Starting with a group discussion around the fire circle. The children will then have the opportunity to make their own decisions, this could be to build shelters, explore the surroundings and wildlife, or just enjoying being outside. Maybe even story telling and games can happen.

A short break with hot chocolate and biscuit allows for children to reenergise then the session finishes with a group reflection that is shared by all.

Links with the classroom

Working in partnership with class teachers, children's learning experiences can be taken back in the classroom where extended learning can take place

What my child will need to wear

Old play clothing that wont mind getting muddy.

Long sleeve tops and trousers

Wellington Boots or strong outdoor boots

Water proof coat and trousers

2 pairs of warm socks or wellington boot socks

Hat and gloves

Layers of clothes and a few spares

Forest School takes place whatever the weather.

Giving your child the experience to explore our changing

environment and remember rainy days are good days to build shelters. **Only in severe weather conditions [high winds or amber warning] will sessions be cancelled.**



What is Forest School ?

Forest School is an inspirational process that offers children and young people opportunities to achieve, develop confidence and self esteem through hands on learning experiences in a local woodland environment

[Forest School England Definition]

Forest School Principles

- Forest School is for all children and young people
- Forest School builds on a child's innate motivation and positive attitude to learning, offering them the opportunities to take risks, make choices, and initiate learning for themselves.
- Forest school are organised and run by qualified Forest School Leaders.
- Forest School maximises the learning potential in a local woodland site through frequent and regular experiences throughout the year , not a one off visit
- Forest School helps children to understand, appreciate and care for the natural environment

Where will my child go to do Forest School ?

A suitable wooded area within the school grounds has been prepared for use

So what will my child gain from Forest School?

Children who participate develop intrinsic motivation to

- Learn new skills
- Co-operate with others
- Problem solve
- Take risks with a controlled environment
- Become more confident
- Develop physical skills
- Become more self aware and gain positive self esteem
- Develop empathy
- Become independent

All of these skill are valuable to your child

Tools and fires

Throughout the programme as children become more confident they will learn how to use tools safely. These can be fixed blade knives, bow saws and hand drills. The Forest School Leader is trained to teach the safe use of all tools, giving one to one supervision at all times. There will be opportunities to cook on an open campfire, this embraces a social unity of gathering and sharing together. Camp fires will only take place when the leader is confident the children have become more familiar with their surroundings and can follow the camp fire safety rules.

Health and Safety

The Forest School Leader is fully trained to deliver sessions. Relevant risk assessments embedded within the delivery of the programme ensuring your child is always safe whatever they are doing