

Forest School Curriculum Overview

Intent	<p>Our Forest School will be an inclusive, vibrant community where pupils are inspired by nature to reach their full potential and learn in a pupil-led way. Using a deep respect for the outdoors and natural world we will create a learning environment that will be encouraging, will foster curiosity, resilience and a love for the outdoors. Through hands-on practical experiences and guided discovery, we will empower pupils to develop confidence, independence and ownership of the environment they learn in.</p> <p>We believe that all our pupils can achieve in Forest School. We aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum which is relevant to and widens the experiences of our children. We do this in order to prepare our children for the challenges they will face and to inspire a love of knowledge, learning and the natural world.</p> <p><u>Ethos and Principles of Forest School.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Child-led learning: Forest School places the learner at the center of the educational process, promoting autonomy and individual personalized learning paths.2. Long term process: When the learning takes place over a long time, it will enable sustained engagement and a deeper connection with nature and the natural world.3. Holistic development: Using this approach will nurture physical, emotional, social and cognitive growth by recognising the4. independence of these domains.5. Environmental ownership: Instilling a sense of responsibility, love and care for the natural world is important to encourage sustainable practices and ecological awareness.6. Risk management: Forest School supports managed risk-taking helping learners to develop risk assessment skills and resilience.7. Community and Collaboration: A high emphasis on teamwork and social skills will help to foster a sense of belonging and mutual respect within the group.8. Experiential learning: Learning will be hands on, practical and experiential. It will engage the senses and encourage active participation and exploration. <p><u>Pedagogy of Forest School.</u></p> <p>This is rooted in experiential, play based and learner-led approaches and teaching that emphasize the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experiential learning: The Forest School activities will be designed to be hands-on and involve direct interaction with the natural environment.• Play and choice: Play is recognised as a fundamental aspect of learning. Pupils are given the freedom to choose activities that are of interest to them which will foster intrinsic motivation and engagement.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inquiry-Based Learning: Leaders and facilitators of the Forest School will encourage curiosity and questioning and guide learners to discover answers through exploration and investigation. • Reflective Practice: Regular reflection on practice will be integrated into the sessions to help pupils to think about their experiences, recognise their achievements and to plan future learning.
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	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
KS1 AND KS2	AUTUMN		SPRING		SUMMER	
Y1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome to the course including an introduction to the running of the course. • Health and safety. • Assessment of the pupils' interests to indicate topics. • Survival Skills • Natural Material Art and Design • Den building • Fire safety and cooking • Bug and bird hunting 					
Y2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap on how the course will run. • Health and safety recap. • Assessment of the pupils' interests to indicate topics. • Survival Skills • Natural Material Art and Design • Fire Safety and cooking • Den building 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bug and bird hunting • Potion making 		
Y3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap on how the course will run. • Health and safety recap. • Assessment of the pupils' interests to indicate topics. • Survival Skills • Natural Material Art and Design • Fire Safety and cooking • Den building • Bug and bird hunting • Potion making • Woodwork skills 	
Y4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap on how the course will run. • Health and safety recap. • Assessment of the pupils' interests to indicate topics. • Survival Skills • Natural Material Art and Design • Fire Safety and cooking • Den building • Bug and bird hunting • Potion making • Whittling • Knots 	

Y5			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap on how the course will run. • Health and safety recap. • Assessment of the pupils' interests to indicate topics. • Survival Skills • Natural Material Art and Design • Fire Safety and cooking • Den building • Bug and bird hunting • Potion making • Whittling • Knots • Paint making • Low ropes courses
Y6			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recap on how the course will run. • Health and safety recap. • Assessment of the pupils' interests to indicate topics. • Survival Skills • Natural Material Art and Design • Fire Safety and cooking • Den building • Bug and bird hunting • Potion making • Whittling • Knots • Paint making • Low ropes courses • Use of loppers • Woodwork/ saws, loppers ect