

What sort of activities will go on at Forest School ?

The first sessions will focus on core skills and safety.

Activities will increase week on week and may include:

- Team games
- Storytelling
- Natural art activities
- Use of tools, rope and knot skills
- Exploring, nature watching and bug hunting
- Pond dipping
- Problem solving
- Shelter building
- Campfire cooking and fire lighting

What benefits will my child get from participating in

Forest School?

Forest School supports the holistic development of the child:

- Health and fitness -

Being active in an outdoor, natural environment.

- Increased emotional wellbeing - just being among trees has been shown to have a real and positive effect.

- Social development -

Communicating, sharing, negotiating and Problem-solving . Increased confidence.

- Skills development -

Developing fine and gross motor skills and coordination for real purposes.

- Gaining knowledge and

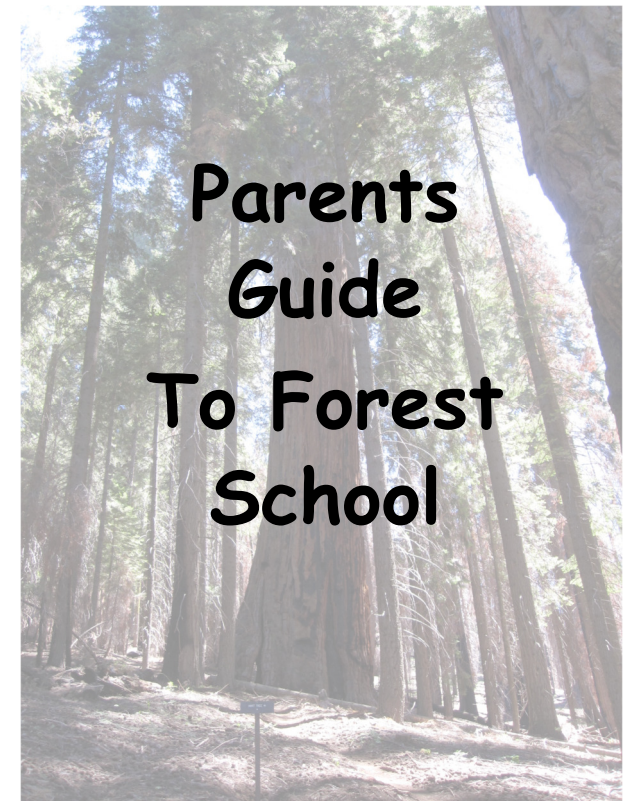
understanding - Multi-sensory, real-life learning, learning to care for our green spaces and wildlife.

- Individualised learning - Careful observation allows adults to tailor support to children's own interests and stage of development.

- Curriculum Links -

Forest School supports many areas of the EYFS ,

National Curriculum and the 'Every Child Matters' agenda.





What is Forest School?

Forest School is a long term outdoor programme of activities delivered by trained practitioners within a natural environment and whatever the weather! Our programme will be tailored to meet the needs of the children as they grow in confidence, skills and understanding. The ethos of Forest School allows learners the time and space to develop skills, interests and understanding through practical, hands-on experiences. It also allows practitioners to step back and observe the children in order to then encourage and inspire individuals to achieve through careful scaffolding and facilitating.

Where will Forest School be taking place ?

The areas that we use for our Forest School is the Woodland Walk , field, Sensory Way and the pond area.

All areas have been thoroughly risk assessed and this will be updated regularly.

Who will be staffing the Forest School?

Nikki Prosser who has been trained in Forest school delivery. Each session will also be supported by the class TA and an additional TA. However, more adult helpers would be great and make it even better; so if any parents (or grandparents) who would like to help out too, they would be most welcome. If you do not have DRB clearance but are interested in helping, please ask for an application form from the office.

When will Forest School be taking place and how should the children be dressed ? This programme will take place in the afternoons. Each class will be taken out once every 2 weeks. Attached is timetable to see when your child's class will be involved. Please also see the kit list.

Health and Safety.

The health and safety of all participants is central to everything undertaken within a Forest School Programme. Forest School leaders are fully trained in risk assessment and emergency first aid. The Forest School operates under the school's Health and Safety policy and policies and procedures regarding safeguarding and confidentiality. Alongside this the following are completed:

- a seasonal and daily risk assessment of site
- risk assessments for activities
- informed adult helpers
- first aid , emergency equipment and prodecures

Some of the activities the children may participate in are 'higher-risk activities' (such as campfire cooking or tool use). However, these activities are not available to the children until certain behaviours and boundaries are established. Children are encouraged and supported in recognising and managing risk for themselves, through real life situations and experiences.