

## Forest School

Children will need appropriate clothing to go outside:

They will be provided with waterproof trousers and jackets which have been kindly donated by

**TEAM SHIRLEY**

We will also supply snacks and drinks to take with us

Children will also need wellies and other warm clothing when necessary.

Hats and sunscreen and a long sleeved t-shirt if the sun shines!

If you have any questions about Forest School please do not hesitate to talk to us.

Shirley Community Nursery and Primary School

The Forest School Handbook containing all our policies and procedures is available on request

# Forest School

A classroom without walls



Do you remember having fun learning outdoors as a child? That is what we would like your child to experience

The Forest School initiative originated in Scandinavia in the 1950's where they believed in the principle that children can benefit greatly from the hands on learning opportunities inherently present in a woodland environment, but it was a trip to Denmark in 1994 by the Early Years Department at Bridgwater College and the ideas they brought back that started the development of Forest School in this country. In 2003 the environment charity Green Light Trust, based in Suffolk was given the task of launching Forest School across the East of England with projects and training taking place in Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex and beyond. Many County Councils and Wildlife trusts are now supporting and engaging with Forest School and Universities are now including Forest School in their Teacher training courses.



Forest School is a unique way to deliver outdoor learning in accordance with curriculum guidelines raising children's confidence and self-esteem

As part of your child's activities in Reception, with your consent, they will take part in a weekly session of Forest School at Bramblesfield Nature Reserve, which is only a 5 minute walk away from school

There will be time for the children to explore within safe boundaries, and use tools under supervision

Through investigation they will learn more about their environment and how to take care of it

We will have lots of fun using imagination and creativity which can lead to some fascinating story telling sessions both in the forest and back at school

We will offer children the chance to talk about what they have learnt, enjoyed and what they are good at. This will help us to plan for future activities

Positive behaviour is supported by activities that use play and active learning processes

## Forest School helps children to develop:

- self-esteem and confidence
- communication and language skills
- an understanding and appreciation of the natural environment
- creativity and imagination
- Motivation and concentration
- a positive attitude to learning
- the ability to recognise and manage risk

