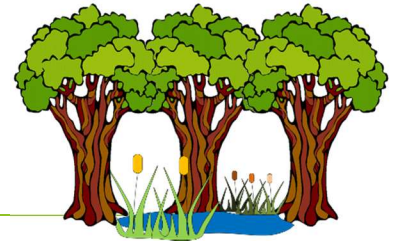


# Forest School Policy

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Forest School's main priority is to keep the children safe. The overarching theme within the following policies is to ensure all the children are safe in all Forest School sets out to achieve.

The following policies are set out below and are contained in this handbook:

Behaviour Policy

Clothing Policy

Eating Policy

Emergency Procedures Policy

Fire Safety Policy

Health and Safety Policy

Hand Tools Policy

Missing Child Policy

Roles and Responsibilities Policy

Toileting Policy

Volunteers Policy

Woodland Conservation Policy

## Forest School aims to:

- Develop children's personal, social and emotional skills through the acquisition of new skills and knowledge.
- Develop children's independence, motivation, self-awareness, self-discovery, communication skills and self-esteem, whilst always ensuring there is a safe environment.

Thus it is essential that the Forest School Leader will complete appropriate risk assessments for the Forest School sites.

- A full risk assessment of the site will be completed and filed.
- The Leader will complete a risk assessment prior to each session, and logging results in the Forest School Risk Assessment book.
- The Leader will look for hazards within the Forest School area, deciding who could be harmed and how.
- It is then essential to evaluate the risks and decide whether it is unsafe to visit until risks have been appropriately controlled.
- Forest School sessions may only take place when the risks are low.
- When the weather is deemed too dangerous such as storms or high winds, the session will be postponed until the week after, unless a catch up session is available.
- Risks related to specific activities will be noted on the lesson plans for that session.
- Ensure children, staff and volunteers are informed of the emergency procedures of the school.
- It is the Leaders' responsibility to ensure all children and staff are aware of the skills needed to minimize risks, particularly when using fire, and tools.
- All children and staff will have access to drinking water during each session.