

Option – Forest School

Autumn 1 - Summer term 2

Post 16

Forest School Rationale



Forest school is a student led, developmental and experiential curriculum which is underpinned by six core principles (see below). Underneath the principles there is a broad scheme of the themes which will be delivered but, due to the nature of Forest School, will always be subject to change and modification.

1. Forest School is a long-term process of regular sessions, rather than one-off or infrequent visits; the cycle of planning, observation, adaptation and review links each session.
2. Forest School takes place in a woodland or natural environment to support the development of a lifelong relationship between the learner and the natural world.
3. Forest School uses a range of learner-centred processes to create a community for being, development and learning.
4. Forest School aims to promote the holistic development of all involved, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners.
5. Forest School offers learners the opportunity to take supported risks appropriate to the environment and to themselves.
6. Forest School is run by qualified Forest School practitioners, who continuously maintain and develop their professional practice.

Forest Exploration and identifications

-Establish Forest School boundaries and rules

-Identification of flora and fauna

-Create leaf prints of fauna

Tarps and Knots

-Identify safe areas to construct and put up tarps and shelters

-Learn about different shelter types which can be constructed and put up using a tarp

-Identifying and learning how to tie basic knots to assist in shelter construction

Bug Hotels/Shelters/Den Building

-Identify safe areas to place bug hotels

-Identify safe areas to create temporary shelters and dens

-Learn about different types of shelters

Tree Cookies

-To safely use a range of hand tools – bowsaw/hand drill

-To understand and identify the features of a bowsaw and hand drill

-To create tree cookies and mobiles from natural resources

Mallet Cazoo

-To understand and identify the features of a billhook and knife

-To understand how to use a billhook and knife safely

-To make a mallet using forest materials

-To create an instrument using forest materials

Fire and Kelly Kettle

- To understand the health and safety around fires
- To understand the health and safety when using Kelly Kettles
- To understand how to cook safely on a fire – bread and smores.