

Ten Acres Forest School Information Pack

Sustainable Life
Birmingham
with Friends of Ten Acres

Welcome to the Ten Acres Forest School. We invite you to join us down the twisty path of Ten Acres heritage woodland and explore the possibilities with our child-lead immersive learning experience.

What is Forest School?

Forest School provides a unique learning experience for children in the outdoors. Participants will get to experience learning through play, teamwork, imagination and awe. Using a holistic approach to learning and a child-lead approach, participants are encouraged to build their imagination, self-esteem, skills, vocabulary, social relationships, and world understanding.

Sessions often include curriculum topics to compliment scholastic learning. Biology, physics, english, history, social studies, maths, literacy, theatre, art and more - often discovered through the natural questions and exploration of the participants and facilitated by the Forest School Leader.

Participants are placed into a safe environment to explore and learn about self management and risks in a controlled way. This teaches them cause and effect, responsibility, behaviour management and to acknowledge their own feelings and develop coping tools.

Will there be tools and fire?

Tool use and Fire may be introduced later on in the programmes depending on the capability of the group. We will endeavour to promote safe and proper use of tools and fire where it is safe and appropriate to do so within the group. Tools may include: peelers, hand drills, fire striker, knife, mallet, bow saw.

How does Forest School help learning?

It has been proven in research that learning that takes place outdoors and through play is more powerful and memorable - this is because all of the senses are involved. Participants self-initiate learning and developmental experiences and learn how to manage their own risks and build their self-esteem and resilience for the next stages in life.

What happens at Forest School?

Everyone meets up at the entrance to the Ten Acres woodland by Riverbrook Drive/Cartland Road. We travel as a group down the pathway into the forest area until we reach 'base camp'. Over the next 6 weeks we will 'build' our base camp and create a sense of ownership and achievement through teamwork, play and creativity. Every session will be different, with a set selection of Forest School activities to complement learning and bonding with the flexibility to adapt and change according to the child-initiated learning pathways.

What PPE do we need?

The Forest School practitioners will have a range of protective equipment to ensure the safety of the group at all times. This will include a minimum of fire gloves, burn first aid kit and first aid kit. All practitioners are fully trained with advanced DBS checks and a first aider.

For recommended clothing please see our handy clothing guide for all weathers enclosed.

What are the Adult - Child ratios?

There will always be two practitioners for any given session and at least one first aider. All practitioners are DBS checked. Practitioners are given additional complimentary training regularly.

Group size will never exceed a ratio of 1:8.

Participant tool use and fire use will never exceed a ratio of 1:3.

**If you have any more questions or concerns
please contact us at 07576 222 001**