



## FOXHILLS FEDERATION

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Headteacher: Mrs L Howe

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Parents,

After Easter, we are excited to be introducing Forest schools into our curriculum.

Forest school learning is child centered and provides opportunities for holistic growth: sessions are exploratory and encourage problem solving and risk taking. We want to develop our children's confidence and self-esteem, as well as their understanding and love for the natural world, and Forest Schools will contribute towards this because it supports children to:

- Try new things
- Take risks
- Overcome fears and barriers
- Use creativity and independence
- Explore and investigate
- Applying knowledge and skills to solve problems
- Cooperate and work as a team, valuing everyone's contribution, ideas and effort (respect and tolerance).

(And these skills can be applied to all learning).

All children will partake in forest schools with a trained practitioner and their class (including their teacher and teaching assistant). Sessions will take place weekly, for six weeks, and children will take part in forest schools every year. For the summer term, children in years one, two, five and six will begin their sessions and from September, all children will begin the programme.

For children in years 1,2,5 and 6, please see the attached overview for the summer term, setting out the day and time your child will be participating in forest schools. Our year five and six team will confirm when your child will be doing forest schools closer to the time of the session, as you will notice it has been necessary to divide the three classes into two groups.

Regardless of the weather, Forest Schools takes place so all children will need to wear suitable clothing and footwear (which can be worn instead of their school uniform):

- long sleeved top and trousers (joggers are fine, ideally plain)
- wellington boots or sturdy trainers
- hat (if sunny)
- rain coat (if wet)

We are excited to be able to make use of our unique grounds and environment to further promote our children's wider social, emotional, spiritual and cultural development. We look forward to the benefits Forest school has to offer our children and hope they thoroughly enjoy the experience.

Kind regards,  
Lucy Howe

Headteacher  
Foxhills Federation (infant and junior Schools)