

Forest School

What is Forest School all about?

The Forest School ethos was initially developed in Scandinavia in the 1950's. They recognised that there were many benefits to creating a learning environment outdoors, using nature and its' natural resources to enable children to create and learn.

In 1995, Forest School was introduced in to the UK and slowly but surely more and more organisations started taking it on and including it as part of their learning experience. We at Leatherhead Trinity are one of those organisations that have recognised the benefits of Forest School and have been providing sessions for our pupils for many years. The children (and adults) love it!

Making Medallions



Using Kelly Kettles to Make Hot Chocolate



Can anyone lead Forest School?

At Leatherhead Trinity School and Children's Centre we make sure that all adults leading any Forest School sessions are fully trained and qualified in a Level 3, Forest School Leader's qualification.

By ensuring this our children (and adults) are always working in a safe way and within safe boundaries.

What are the benefits of Forest School?

- Being outside no matter what the weather, is a healthy option, breathing in that healthy fresh air.**
- Every child learns in a different way. Forest School caters for this. Every activity involves listening, watching and doing. The sessions are always practical and every child becomes fully involved. No child is excluded from Forest School. A session can be adapted accordingly depending on age, abilities and any special needs.**
- The sessions build children's confidence and self esteem. The children are proud of what they have made and are able to use tools they may not usually use and they engage in activities they may not usually have a chance to do. This in turn helps encourage a healthy independence.**
- They learn good communication skills. The children are encouraged to ask questions and talk to their partners or their group politely and with encouragement. Some of the activities require the child to talk to the whole group about what they have made. All good skills to learn and take in to adulthood.**

What else should I know as a parent or carer?

When it is your child's turn for Forest School, you will be given a letter, telling you the details of when your child's sessions will begin and what change of clothes is required for the sessions (there will be 5 sessions in total).

This letter will also have a form attached to it. It is really important that this form is filled out and returned as soon as possible.

The form asks for details of when your child had their last tetanus. If you don't know and you are unable to find out, please circle the don't know option.

We realise you may have written out many of these forms before as your child progresses through the school, however, we do need these forms filled out each time as medical history can change. For example, your child may have been taken to hospital and was given a tetanus jab, therefore making the last form filled out incorrect.

Other than that all we require is that you ensure your child comes with the correct change of clothing (stated on the letter) and be happy in the knowledge that your child will be having loads of fun whilst learning!

Drinking Hot Chocolate



Making Mobiles

