

Behaviour Policy

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Aim

To create an environment where children feel safe and content in an outdoor setting. Where they have the ability to express themselves freely and appropriately through the understanding of a clear set of expectations.

Forest School recognises that everyone comes from a different experience of life and our diversity and differences should be celebrated for the benefits they provide.

Positive Behaviour Support

Forest School recognises that positive behaviour communicates needs that are met and negative behaviour communicates needs that are unmet. We wish to enable learners to understand these behaviours to support them to have positive outcomes.

We expect learners and staff to show:

- * kindness
- * respect
- * willingness to learn
- * commitment to Forest School principles

Individuals will be supported to work towards these outcomes using varied supportive methods based on the needs of the learner. These include, but are not limited to:

- * humour
- * distraction
- * praise/celebration

Forest School Method

Forest School understands that behaviours of concern are learned and therefore can be shaped to become positive, and we believe that responses to positive behaviour need to be tailored to the learner.

Praise

The Forest School Leader will praise learners who display positive behaviour. Depending on lived experiences, learners will respond differently to praise, therefore it is delivered in several ways depending on what is appropriate for the learner:

- * Positive body language, gestures and smiles

- * verbal praise
- * public praise as part of a group
- * feedback to teacher/parent
- * rewards as appropriate"

The general response to negative behaviour is as follows:

- * listening to the learner's explanation of the behaviour
- * Forest School Leader explaining the expected and alternative response to behaviour presented
- * Forest School Leader explaining why a certain expectation exists

Repeated behaviour of concern will result in reminders, removal from activity and finally leaving the Forest School site

Behaviours which result in someone's safety being placed in jeopardy will result in a learner leaving the Forest School site early, but will include reparative work upon the learners return.

It is the Forest School aim to find the source of the behaviour presented and to limit instances of the behaviour re-occurring.

Should any attendee display a level of behaviour that the Leader feels unable to manage effectively within Forest School, a discussion will be had with the class teacher or SEN Coordinator to find an alternative approach.

The Forest School Code of Conduct

Respect Nature

- * Treat all living things with kindness and care
- * Respect the Forest School site as a natural habitat for the animals and plants whose space we share

Listen, and be respectful of others

- * Pay attention to your surroundings
- * Following instructions from your Forest School Leader
- * Treat others with the respect that you would like them to show you.

Teamwork and Inclusion

- * Work together with your fellow explorers
- * Be a kind and supportive friend; recognise and take joy in the achievements of others

- * Celebrate the differences which make each of us unique
- * Share tools, resources and discoveries

Safety Rules must be observed

- * Forest School rules need to be listened to and respected to give the Leader confidence in providing freedom of choice and independence.
- * Appropriate clothing and footwear should be worn to Forest School. If children are uncomfortable, cold or wet they will not have a positive experience and may need to return to school early.

Leave no trace

- * Keep the Forest School site clean, pack away and clear up after you have used resources.
- * Ensure that what you use is looked after and returned so that the next person can enjoy using it too.
- * Dispose of waste in bins

Curiosity and Learning

- * Ask questions and express your curiosity
- * Learn about the plants, animals and the ecosystem around you
- * Share your discoveries and knowledge with others

Respect personal space

- * Give others space to explore and enjoy the site
- * Be mindful of your impact on the environment and on fellow explorers

Communication and Sharing

- * Communicate your thoughts in a respectful manner
- * If you are unsure about anything, or unhappy about something, the Forest School Leader is there to listen and help you"

Dealing with an incident of concern

On rare occasions there may be an incident which could jeopardise the safety and wellbeing of other attendees on site. This may be due to threatening or aggressive behaviour that requires addressing immediately to avoid extended stress and trauma. The action will be as follows:

- * Radio school office for support
- * Keep yourself safe
- * Make the environment as safe as possible, including:

Putting out fire

Removing and securing equipment and tools

Removing logs, branches etc. if possible

Moving other learners away and keeping them safe

Moving disregulated learner away from hazard

Keeping the disregulated learner as safe as possible and always within sight

After any incident of this nature the following should be done:

- * Speak to the class teacher or SEN Coordinator and confirm in writing
- * complete the relevant form
- * consider if risk assessments need updating

Absconding/leaving the premises

- * Warn learner the class teacher will be informed and their session has now ended
- * Radio school office for support if necessary.
- * Discuss incident with class teacher."

Use of inappropriate language

- * Remind learner of the expected standard of behaviour and that they may have to return to school if they continue.
- * If the behaviour escalates, radio school office for support.