

Learning and Development Policy

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Wessex Forest School is committed to building self-esteem, independence, emotional resilience, autonomy, and motivation, as well as sharing knowledge, respect, and care for our environment.

The approach of Wessex Forest School is learner-led, play-centred, holistic, and experiential. When taking part in our forest school programme a child is engaging with nature in wild spaces in an exploratory, sensory, and physical way.

Wessex Forest School believes it is important to create a long-term relationship with the children, allowing all participants the opportunity to experience how environments change over time.

Participating children are encouraged to take constructive risks in order to develop skills, good judgment and to learn and develop. In planning activities, we consider not only the risks but also the potential benefits for the learner.

Roles & Responsibilities

It is the role of the Forest School Leader to be responsible for the planning, delivery, and evaluation of the forest school programme. The children are encouraged to play and learn as independently as possible alongside a diverse range of activities exposing the children to new skills, tools and techniques.

The Forest School Leader also takes primary responsibility for ensuring that policies and procedures, rules and guidelines are adhered to. Volunteers and other adults may help with these responsibilities where they are able or qualified to do so.

Evaluation

Evaluation forms will be completed after each session.