

Forest Schools Curriculum Progression

Vision

At Burhill, we aim to provide a nurturing space that supports our children's wellbeing by providing and implementing positive outdoor, child-led experiences in a natural setting, the impact of which will help foster traits such as resilience, confidence and independence and develop motivation, co-operation, decision-making and social skills. Such experiences encourage our children to become successful learners and develop as healthy, confident, enterprising and responsible citizens.

Well planned and constructed outdoor learning will help to develop the skills of enquiry, critical thinking and reflection necessary for our children to meet the social, economic and environmental challenges of life in the 21st century. Outdoor learning connects children and young people with the natural world, society and encourages lifelong involvement.

Challenge, enjoyment, relevance, depth, development of the whole person and an adventurous approach to learning are at the core of outdoor pedagogy. The outdoor environment will encourage staff and children to see each other in a different light, building positive relationships and improving self-awareness and understanding of others.

Year N & Reception

Key Knowledge	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A spade is a tool designed to dig with. • To balance is to distribute weight evenly in order to remain upright and steady. • To know that a minibeast is a small invertebrate animal. • To know and be able to recall the 'fire safety word.' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a spade safely to dig a hole • Balance on a log with support • Identify 1 minibeast • Move around the fire pit safely

Year 1

Key Knowledge	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To know and be able to implement the tool talk for using a peeler correctly. • To know and understand what a habitat is and identify some for minibeasts. • To know that firewood is wood that is burnt as fuel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a peeler to peel the bark off a stick • Identify 3 minibeasts and begin to look at habitats • Identify different types of firewood • Make a woodland spirit from clay or natural materials • Work in a small team with support and direction

Year 2

Key Knowledge	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be able to recall the fire rules to the team leader / another Forest Schooler. • To know the name of and be able to demonstrate 1 knot. • To know how to construct a den safely, knowing how to move a long branch correctly. • To know what flint and steel are and how they create a spark. • Know how to work effectively in a team with the direction of a team leader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recall the fire rules • Learn 1 knot • Balance on a log/move along stepping stones independently • Build a den for a teddy • Get a spark with the flint and steel • Work in a team with a team leader

Year 3

Key Knowledge	Key Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To know how to use a previously taught spark to create a flame using the flint and steel. • To recall the fire triangle (fuel, oxygen, heat) to the FS leader. • To recall the tool talk for using a saw and to demonstrate safe use. • To know the correct names of some common trees and plants in the woodland area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light a piece of cotton wool using the flint and steel • Recall the fire triangle • Use a saw safely • Use a clove hitch • Identify 4 trees and or plants in Forest School • Demonstrate working well in a team without support

Year 4

Key Knowledge	Key Skills
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Light the fire using the flint and steel • Identify different habitats for minibeast • Make a willow crown • Build a shelter using a tarpaulin • Give instructions on how make hot choc on the fire • Recall how to extinguish a fire safely

Year 5

Key Knowledge	Key Skills
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a shelter using natural materials • Use loppers or secateurs safely • Prepare or give instructions on how to prepare and cook pancakes on the fire • Demonstrate square lashing and make a stick picture frame • Demonstrate good team work without direction and complete a set task

Year 6

Key Knowledge	Key Skills
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whittle a stick safely • Teach a skill/technique to someone else • Light, maintain and extinguish a fire safely • Make a natural obstacle course • Make a shelter that is weather proof