



Billingshurst Primary Academy

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Ambition
Belonging
Courage

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Year 2 Forest School Sessions

We are excited to let you know that Year 2 children will be taking part in Forest School sessions this year, delivered by Jen Keil from Woodland Wonders Forest School.

Forest school sessions will take place on a **Wednesday** throughout the year. The children will spend half a day each week in the school's woodland area. Please see below the timetable for when each class will be taking part. The sessions will begin on 17 th September 2025 for Kerr and Ahlberg class.

Autumn 1 - Kerr/Ahlberg

Starting on Wednesday 17 th September

Autumn 2 - Kerr/Browne

Spring 1 - Ahlberg/Browne

Spring 2 - Ahlberg/Kerr

Summer 1 - Browne/Kerr

Summer 2 - Ahlberg/Browne

What is Forest School?

Forest School is a child-centred approach that encourages holistic growth through regular, hands-on sessions in a natural outdoor setting. It allows children to explore, play, and learn at their own pace while engaging meaningfully with the natural world. Through this process, they develop resilience, independence, creativity, and a strong sense of connection with their environment.

Benefits of Forest School

Forest School supports children's social, emotional, and mental health (SEMH), as well as their academic learning. It builds confidence, encourages teamwork, and nurtures problem-solving skills. The experience of learning outdoors is not only enriching and memorable but also contributes significantly to their overall well-being and personal development.



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What to Expect

Forest School will take place once a week in the school's woodland area. Sessions will run in all weather conditions, except in cases of high winds or extreme weather. During sessions, children may take part in a range of activities such as:

Nature-based crafts

Den building

Fire lighting

Campfire and outdoor snack cooking, such as marshmallows, damper bread, toast, etc.

Tool use, whittling, woodworking

Exploration and discovering nature

Learning about local wildlife and habitats

Clothing

As the children will be outdoors for the full session, it is essential they are dressed appropriately. Please ensure that on Forest School days they bring in a change of clothes (in a named bag).

In colder months:

Waterproof coat and trousers

Warm layers (e.g. fleece, jumper)

Hat, scarf and gloves

Thick socks

Wellies or waterproof boots

In warmer months:

Long-sleeved top and trousers (to protect from scratches/insects)

Sun hat

Sun cream applied before school

Waterproof jacket (just in case!)

Trainers or sturdy closed-toe shoes

Please label all clothing clearly to help prevent lost items.

Other Notes

Your child may get muddy or wet during sessions – please don't send them in anything too precious!

We're really looking forward to a fantastic program of outdoor learning and adventure. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office.

Kind regards,

The Year 2 Team