DOWSON PRIMARY ACADEMY



Marlborough Road, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 5HU. Tel: 0161 366 0177. Fax: 0161 366 0546 Principal : Kathryn Thornburn (BSc Hons, NPQH) Dowson Primary Academy 0161 366 0177



9th September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Your child will be taking part in Forest School every Thursday from the week beginning the 12th of September 2022. A two hour session will take place in the Forest School area within our own school grounds. The sessions will be led by Mrs Crapper.

1 Birch – 15th September, 29th September, 13th October 1 Oak – 22nd September, 6th October, 20th October

We will be outside in all different weather conditions, including rain and colder temperatures.

Your child will be required to wear appropriate clothing and footwear for each session. They will need:

- Clothing they are comfortable in and are allowed to get dirty
- Long trousers in all weathers to protect against insect bites, scratches and stings
- Stout footwear with enclosed toes in all-weather, e.g. old trainers or wellies
- Warm layers, hat and gloves if cold
- Waterproofs, including waterproof trousers if they have them, for wet weather

Remember that your child's clothes may get very dirty during the activities, so please reassure your child that it is alright for them to get dirty in Forest School!

Your child will need to bring these clothes in for every Forest School session and will get changed out of their uniform before going into the Forest School. At the end of the session if they are wet or dirty they can change back into their school uniform. Could you please send in your child's forest school clothes in a named bag.

Your child will take part in a range of activities such as

- 1. Building shelters using natural materials, tarpaulin and rope
- 2. Investigating woodland wildlife
- 3. Tree climbing pupils will be allowed to climb to a maximum height of 1.5 metres from the ground with adult supervision.
- 4. Art and craft activities
- 5. Using tools such as potato peelers under 1:1 adult supervision and with appropriate training in safety
- 6. Campfire cooking with adult supervision and with appropriate safeguards in place
- 7. Trail finding and exploring within the Forest School boundary





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Forest school improves children's health and well-being, develops their physical skills; they learn many different life skills and further develop effective social and communication skills by working together, all whilst having lots of fun!

Thank you for your support

Yours sincerely

Mrs M Crapper

