



## Forest School at St Peter's

At St Peter's, our Forest School reflects our Christian vision of "Sowing the seeds of tomorrow." As a Christian family, we nurture the unique gifts that God, in His awesomeness, has given every child. Set within our extensive grounds in the heart of Darwen, our Forest School makes full use of our beautiful outdoor spaces, including woodland areas, wildlife zones and open fields with breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside.

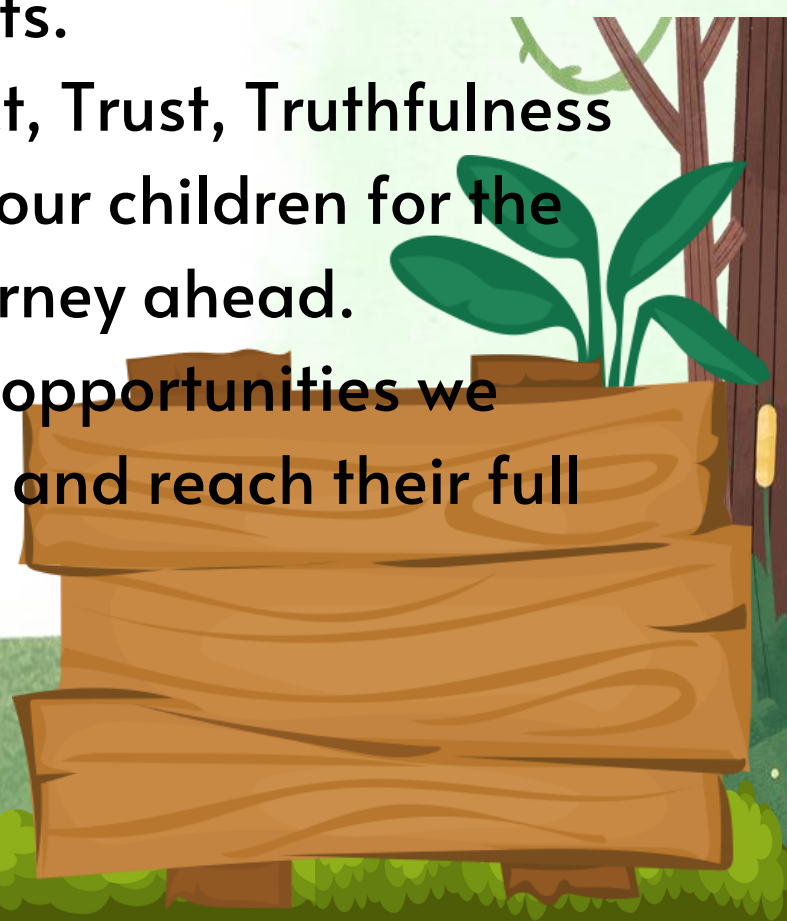
Through regular Forest School sessions, children are encouraged to explore, investigate and take managed risks in a safe and supportive environment. They develop:

- Confidence and independence
- Resilience and perseverance
- Teamwork and communication skills
- Curiosity and problem-solving abilities
- Respect for one another and for God's creation

Forest School supports children's wellbeing and helps them to grow socially, emotionally and spiritually. It brings learning to life beyond the classroom, allowing all children to flourish, particularly those who thrive in hands-on, practical environments.

Rooted in our Christian values of Love, Respect, Trust, Truthfulness and Forgiveness, Forest School helps prepare our children for the next stage of their education and for life's journey ahead.

At St Peter's, we are proud of the rich outdoor opportunities we provide, enabling every child to grow, explore and reach their full potential.





## Forest School at St Peter's

### Why?

As a Christian family at St Peter's School, we create a unique place of learning, nurturing the gifts that God in His awesomeness has given us. Through Forest School, we seek to inspire and prepare every child for life's journey, enabling them to fulfil their potential, dreams and aspirations.

Rooted in our vision of "Sowing the seeds of tomorrow," Forest School provides the fertile ground where children can grow spiritually, socially, emotionally and physically.

We aim to:

Nurture the unique, God-given gifts and talents of every child.  
Foster awe and wonder in God's creation through meaningful outdoor experiences.

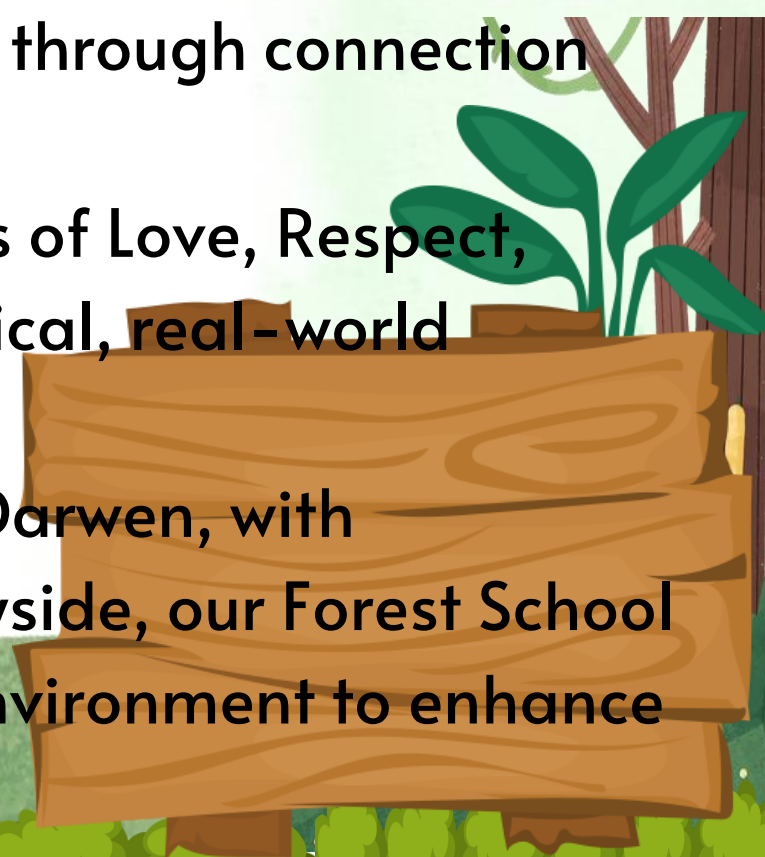
Develop resilience, independence and confidence.

Promote teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills.

Encourage responsible stewardship of the natural world.

Support positive mental health and wellbeing through connection with nature.

Enable children to live out our Christian values of Love, Respect, Trust, Truthfulness and Forgiveness in a practical, real-world context.



Situated in extensive grounds in the heart of Darwen, with breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside, our Forest School provision makes full use of our rich outdoor environment to enhance learning beyond the classroom.

## How?

Forest School at St Peter's is embedded within our broad and rich curriculum and reflects our commitment to nurturing the whole child.

We achieve this through:

- Regular, planned Forest School sessions for all year groups.
- Use of our extensive outdoor spaces, including woodland areas, wildlife zones, playgrounds, sports fields and inner courtyard garden.
- A child-centred approach that encourages exploration, curiosity and independent thinking.
- Progressive skill development such as shelter building, safe tool use, fire safety, environmental awareness and teamwork challenges.
- Opportunities for reflection, prayer and spiritual development within nature.
- Carefully managed risk-taking to build resilience and decision-making skills.
- Inclusive provision, ensuring all children, regardless of starting point, can access and succeed.
- Strong links to curriculum areas including Science, Geography, PSHE, PE and RE.

Our dedicated staff nurture healthy mindsets, encouraging children to persevere, collaborate and reflect. Forest School complements our well-resourced classrooms by extending learning into the natural world.



## What?

As a result of our Forest School provision:

- Children grow in confidence, independence and resilience.
- Pupils demonstrate our Christian values in action, showing respect for one another and for creation.
- Children develop strong social skills through collaboration and shared challenges.
- Emotional wellbeing is strengthened, supporting positive attitudes to learning.
- Pupils show increased curiosity, creativity and problem-solving ability.
- Children understand their responsibility as stewards of God's world.
- All learners, including those who may struggle in a traditional classroom environment, have opportunities to flourish and succeed.

Forest School plays a vital role in preparing our children for the next stage of their education and for life beyond St Peter's, equipping them with confidence, character and compassion.

