

St Faith's Church of England Infant and Nursery School

Forest School Procedures

Fire Procedure

Within our forest school site, we have a permanent seating area, known as the fire square, around our fire pit. We have safety rules that we follow within and around our fire square. These need to be followed at all times regardless of whether a fire is lit or not. The rules are:

- We do not run around the fire square
- We walk around the OUTSIDE of the fire square to get from one side to the other
- There must be no more than 2 people within the fire pit area at the same time
- We only enter the fire square when instructed to do so by a forest school leader

A fire will not be lit until all children taking part are able to follow these rules. For further information, please see our fire risk assessment.

Tool Use Procedure

Tools are used within forest school as a way of enhancing sessions and supporting a child's holistic development. Each tool is used for specific purposes and before using any tool, staff will give a 'tool talk' that explains the use and safety procedures for each tool. Staff will model correct and safe tool use and closely monitor children whilst they are using any tool. Children will not be permitted to use tools until the forest school leaders are confident that they can use them safely. Tools will be removed if correct safety procedure is not being followed. When not in use, all tools are stored securely away in a locked shed on the forest school site.

See individual tool risk assessments for more tool specific procedures.

Procedure for eating, drinking and cooking at Forest School

Sitting together in our fire circle to share a snack and drink is an important part of every forest school session. We ask that children bring their own water bottle to the session. In the colder months, a warm drink will also be provided.

A healthy snack, such as fruit, will be readily available throughout the session for if a child is hungry. A more filling snack may be provided towards the end of the session. This might be something that we have prepared and/ or cooked at forest school. Dietary needs will be catered for.

Children will be taught the 'No pick, No lick' rule – We must not pick anything from plants or the floor and put it into or near our mouths/ nose.

Food or drink that needs to be stored at a low temperature will remain in the fridge within the school building until it is needed. Food will be transported to the forest school site in air-tight containers where it will remain until it is needed.

Before preparing or eating food, children and staff will wash their hands with hand soap in a bowl of soapy water. Hand gel will also be readily available.

Before preparing food, long hair must be tied back and any open wounds such as cuts must be covered with a waterproof plaster.

Food will be prepared on a suitable clean surface, such as a chopping board. Separate chopping boards and utensils will be used for raw/ cooked food and different types of food e.g. meat, vegetables, bread. Any tools required during the preparation of food, such as knives, will be used under the close supervision of an adult. Food that is waiting to be cooked will be kept separate from cooked food. We will ensure that cooked food is adequately heated and if required, will be tested with a temperature probe to ensure it is fully cooked.

Children will be taught to blow on hot food to cool it down before they eat it.

Procedure for the disposal of food, litter and waste water

Any litter will be collected throughout the session and placed in a rubbish bag to be disposed of at the end of the session. This then goes in the large bins on the school grounds ready for collection. Appropriate food will be put in the compost bins. All waste water is poured down an outside drain within the school grounds.

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