



Outdoor Education and the Forest School in the Explore Pathway

Rationale:

Through the Explore Pathway, we aim to ensure that our students are:

- Given the opportunity to regularly access a woodland or natural environment over a long period of time, rather than a one-off visit.
- Given the opportunity to develop holistically, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners.
- Given the opportunity to take supported risks appropriate to the environment and themselves (risk benefit!)
- Involved in their learning journey by being at the core of a learner centred process

Forest School in the Explore Pathway

Intent	Implementation	Impact
<p style="text-align: center;">The curriculum that is offered through the Explore Pathway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will develop a range of fundamental outdoor skills, knowledge and understanding that prepares them for adulthood. • Will encourage the students to develop resilience, confidence, independence and creativity. • Will inspire the students to spend more time outdoors/enjoy the outdoors. • Will encourage the physical, social, cognitive, linguistic, emotional and spiritual aspects of the student. 	<p style="text-align: center;">We achieve our intentions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experiencing a highly differentiated Outdoor Learning curriculum that works alongside the Equals semi formal curriculum: My Outdoor School and the SLD thematic scheme of work • Visiting our onsite woodland at least once every 2 weeks. • Initially establishing physical and behavioural boundaries. • Creating and managing a woodland that is ideally suited to the needs of the programmers and the learners, providing them with the space and environment to explore and discover. • Using natural resources for inspiration to enable ideas and to encourage intrinsic motivation. • Observing students and building on an individual's innate motivation and interests. • Ensuring Outdoor Learning and Forest School are run by qualified practitioners who continuously maintain and develop their practice. • Allowing opportunity for reflection so that learners and practitioners can understand their achievements, develop emotional intelligence and plan for the future. • Allowing time for play and choice as vital parts to learning and development. 	<p style="text-align: center;">The impact of the Explore Pathway provision is demonstrated through the development of students who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enthusiastic and show enjoyment for the subject both in and out of the classroom. • Central to the Forest School programme and reflect in their own way as to guide the planning of the programme. • Aware of the positive impact that spending time has on their holistic development. • Able to apply their new outdoor knowledge, skills and understanding in other subjects and real-life situations. • Enjoy spending time outdoors with their families.