

## Dear Parent/Carer,

St. Mary's School has developed a Forest School in the corner of our school field to give children the unique opportunity of experiencing first hand, play and learning in a controlled outdoor environment.

Forest School is the name for an approach to educating children in the outdoors on a regular basis. This work will support the main curriculum (particularly literacy, science, maths and the arts) and will have a strong emphasis on raising all children's self esteem and independence.

An integral part of the Forest School experience is that children will experience the outdoors in all weathers. With the exception of very high winds and thunder storms, please assume that your child will be outside when they take part in Forest

Schools, even if it is for a shortened session. To help achieve this, all children taking part in Forest School will need a waterproof coat and waterproof trousers. We ask you to supply wellington or walking boots, and on sunny days, a sun hat and sun cream; on colder days, warm clothing. Please bear in mind your child could possibly get muddy!

Forest School programs operate all year round regardless of weather conditions.

Finally, we have a large amount of risk assessments and policies in place, which you are welcome to read through. Some of these are listed in our handbook to assure you that all risks have been reduced to an acceptable level.

In line with our risk assessments it is essential that all children wear long sleeve tops and trousers at all times on the Forest School site, we are unable to take them to site if they do not adhere to this.

Please can I ask that you complete the attached consent forms, so that your child can take part in Forest School activities. If you have any questions about Forest School, please feel free to approach a member of our staff who will be able to help you.

We thank you for your support during this exciting time for your child. Yours faithfully

Lee Callender and Emma Huntley-Hart - Forest School Leaders

I, being the parent/carer of ..... agree/do not agree for my child to participate in the Forest School activities at St. Mary's Forest School.

Signed ...... Date.....

















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