Mill Lane Forest School Policy and Procedures

On the following pages are the additional policies and procedures applicable for Forest Schools. This documentation runs alongside the relevant whole school policies which can be viewed in full at <http://www.mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk/website/policies/3739>

Health and Safety

Forest School sessions often include activities which can pose higher risk than usual for participants. It is the approach of Mill Lane Forest School to not only consider and minimise the risks but also to consider the benefits of each risk. We recognise that taking risks is an essential part of learning and development.

In addition to whole school policy:

* The trained Forest School leader is in charge of Forest School sessions.
* All adults involved in Forest School sessions have a duty of care and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that the children are safe.
* The Forest School leader will have relevant and currant first aid certificate.
* All activities will be risk assessed.
* All risk assessments will be read and signed by all supporting adults.
* The Forest School leader will review the risk assessments before every Forest School session.
* Burns kit, first aid kit included in the emergency bag, will be available at every session.
  + The Forest School leader is responsible to ensure the contents of the emergency bag, burns and first aid kits are fully stocked prior to each session.
  + The emergency bag will contain: Emergency information on each child attending the session, a charged mobile phone, contact phone number of the school, first aid kit, burns kit and a charged walkie talkie.
* In the event of an emergency, the Forest School leader will contact the relevant emergency services and also the school, as soon as possible.
* The Forest School leader is responsible for the safety checks and maintenance of all tools and equipment to be used for Forest School sessions.
* The Forest School leader will carry out safety checks on all tools prior to each session.
* When using tools the adult ratio will be 1:1.
* The Forest School leader is responsible for training children to use tools and equipment safely and appropriately.
* The Forest School leader is responsible to conduct a pre visit check on the site before each session.

Reviewed: September 2018

Next Review: September 2019