

Mill Lane Community Primary School

Forest School

**Fire Safety Policy**

Mill Lane Forest School aims to keep all children safe.

Campfires are an important part of Forest School and are used in many sessions.

Training has been provided to the Forest School Leader regarding the way to construct, light and manage a fire.

Only the designated Forest School site will be used for campfires during sessions. The site is sited away from low canopy branches. The campfire area is enclosed by logs to make a Fire Pit to prevent the spread of the fire. The Fire area is surrounded by seating logs at least 1.5 metres from the fire pit. Exit paths are available at each corner. When the campfire is in use, children will remain seated and are not permitted to access the area immediately surrounding the fire without permission. Children must walk around the outside of the seating logs step over to sit down at all times. A fire will not be lit with a group until all children have demonstrated that they do this. Once seated around the campfire, the children must remain seated until directed by an adult to move. Children are not permitted to throw anything onto the fire. If there is a clear wind direction, seating in the line of smoke is to be avoided. If wind direction is variable, the leader should rearrange the seating if at all possible.

A Fire Blanket, bucket of water and first aid kit must be sited close to the camp fire. Cling film is carried in the Emergency Ruck Sack.

Only Forest school trained adults are permitted to light fires, unless children are under the direct supervision of the Forest School Leader.

No flammable liquids are to be used to light or accelerate fires. No plastics are to be burnt. Sticks/wood must be placed, not thrown, from the side of the fire. The hand should never go over the fire.

All fires must be extinguished at the end of a session. Whenever possible, all fuels should be burnt off to ash. The Forest School Leader should ensure that any large remains of wood, especially when using logs, are separated from one another. At the end of the session, the fire must be doused down with water using a watering can and stirred until all smoke and steam has ceased. All remains of the fire will be removed and disposed of properly either in the compost bin or given to Gardening club.

Reviewed: September 2018

Next Review: September 2019