



Allotment Woodland School Information Pack

Moss Lane School



What is Woodland School?

Woodland schools first began in Denmark. In 1993, three nursery teachers visited a Woodland School in Denmark and fell in love with the approach to teaching. Woodland Schools are about:

- Child led learning in a controlled way.
- Being outside your 'comfort zone'.
- Small achievable tasks.
- Appreciating nature.
- Getting muddy!

Why Woodland School?

- The main aim of Woodland Schools is to increase confidence and self-esteem and the children will develop a progression of skills and knowledge.
- This is all achieved holistically through playing. Both adults and children need to play as it is a fundamental part of development; socially, biologically and emotionally.
- Play is freely chosen and intrinsically motivated. Through task design, children can play independently whilst overcoming simple and achievable goals.
- Children are able to take calculated risks in a controlled environment.

Our Vision

Every class will experience a Woodland School day each half term. This will be achieved by utilising our allotment.

Safety and Behaviour

- Thorough risk assessments have been completed for all aspects of Woodland School.
- Appropriate clothing must be worn.
- Please carefully read the information on ticks provided in this pack.
- Moss Lane's behaviour policy remains the same.
- Missing a Woodland School session will not be used as a consequence for bad behaviour.

Volunteers

- Calling all parents, carers, grandparents, aunties and uncles!
- Additional helpers are welcome. Please let your child's class teacher know if you or a family member are able to help on any of the Woodland School Days.
- Please note, it would not be suitable for younger siblings to attend. We are also unable to accommodate family dogs.

Inclusion

- Every child WILL succeed in a Woodland School session.
- There is no success criteria.
- There is freedom of choice.
- We will focus on leadership, collaboration and practical skills.

Case Study Evidence

Evidence of the benefits of Woodland Schools for 3-17 year olds have shown the same benefits in:

- Increased confidence in all areas.
- Intrinsically motivated.
- Improved social skills.
- Bravery.
- Attendance.
- Physical health and emotional well-being.
- Appreciation of the outdoor environment.



Woodland School Drop off and Collection

Because our Woodland School sessions take place within our allotment and the local area, drop off and pick up at school are the same as any usual school day.

Woodland School Clothing

On Woodland School days, your child does not need to wear school uniform, but should come to school in suitable outdoor clothing.

To allow pupils to participate fully, the correct clothing is essential and needs to be appropriate for all weather conditions such as:

- Wellington boots, sturdy walking boots or trainers
- Long trousers and long sleeved top
- Jumper or sweatshirt
- Waterproof coat and trousers
- Hat, gloves and thick socks in autumn/winter months
- Sun hat in summer (sun cream should be applied before school)
- Layers are perfect for Woodland School so that the children are warm but can remove a layer if they get too hot.
- **NO SHORTS PLEASE—see tick information on the last page**



Lunch

- All children who usually have school dinners will be provided with a school packed lunch.
- Please select your child's sandwich filling on the Innovate Website with your usual lunch order.
- Please provide supplementary snacks or extra lunch items if you wish—it is hungry work being outside all day!
- Snacks and water bottles should be in a named backpack, in which your child will keep their belongings for the day.
- You **MUST** provide a filled, named water bottle.
- **NO NUTS OR SWEETS ALLOWED.**



UK & Ireland – ticks can be active all year round in long grass, bracken, heather, woodland and hedgerows, especially where deer and livestock are present



BE TICK AWARE

Ticks can carry organisms which may cause physical and neurological illness in humans and animals



Prevention

- > Wear gaiters or long trousers tucked into socks
- > Use insect repellent
- > Check yourself for ticks regularly



Removing ticks

- > Wear surgical gloves
- > Use a tick-removal tool or fine-nosed tweezers
- > Disinfect the tick bite
- > Wash your hands afterwards
- > Make a note of the date and place of the bite
- > Contact your GP if you notice signs of a rash or flu-like symptoms



What NOT to use when removing ticks

- > Creams/petroleum jelly/oils/spirits/freezing agent/powders or other substances
- > Cigarettes/matches/lighter
- > Your fingers or teeth
- > Anything that squeezes the body of the tick

(All these methods may cause regurgitation / back-flow of infective fluids)

