

Principles

- Forest School is a long-term process of frequent and regular sessions in a woodland or natural environment, rather than a one-off visit. Planning, adaptation, observations and reviewing are integral elements of Forest School.
- Forest School takes place in a woodland or natural wooded environment to support the development of a relationship between the learner and the natural world.
- Forest School aims to promote the holistic development of all those involved, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners.
- Forest School offers learners the opportunity to take supported risks appropriate to the environment and to themselves.
- Forest School is run by qualified Forest School practitioners who continuously maintain and develop their professional practice.
- Forest School uses a range of learner-centred processes to create a community for development and learning.

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My Little Barn Owls Ltd

The Old Barn, Roberttown Lane, Roberttown, WF15 7LY

My Little Barn Owls Forest School

My Little Barn Owls forest school will provide your child with hands on experiences within nature. These sessions will develop your child's skills for confidence, self-esteem, physical, communication, risk taking and much more. . Here at My Little Barns Owls we aim to provide a stimulating and safe Forest School experience where children can learn and develop at their own pace with regular long term sessions.





Dear Parents/Carer's

Welcome and thank you for your interest in My Little Barn Owls Forest School: where only the best for your child will do! At My Little Barn Owls, we are making learning a fun and educational experience for your child.

After reading researching many different ways children can learn Karen & Claire embarked on a Forest School journey. Claire is completing a year long course to become a level 3 Forest School Practitioner, with Karen supporting her.

Forest School is about more than just being outdoor to learn. Although children can build their skills and confidence with numeracy and literacy skills, that is not the aim in Forest School. Forest School is a safe environment lead by qualified practitioners where children can engage in risk taking, building social and emotional skills and learn about themselves in the process. Through games, exploration and learning new skills Karen and Claire aim to develop the children's, personal, social and emotional skills such as:

Self-confidence, self-esteem, managing their feelings, working with others, effective communication methods, risk assessment, independence, just to name a few.

This is the start to your child's path into learning!

Your child will attend one Forest School session each week. Children will be group based on their individual personalities and needs, this ensures each group and child are having the best experience to enhance their own learning.

During each session Claire will be the lead practitioner and have at least one other adult assisting. These assistants will follow the direction of the lead practitioner and the children. During Forest School children will mainly access learning through child lead activities with invitations to learn given by the practitioners. As the children become more comfortable and confident with the Forest School sessions the lead practitioner will add new skills these can include:

Making role play props with natural materials.

Different methods of communicating.

Working in teams or independently.

Working with tools.

Building fires.

Cooking on a fire.

Respecting the natural environment.

As the children's parent's/ carers you can also help and support your child with Forest School in some of the following ways.

Although the setting will provide wet suits and wellies, if you would like to send your child with their own please feel free to do so. Please make sure all clothing is clearly labelled with their full name.

You will receive prior notification for when your child will attend Forest School for their regular session, please let Karen or Claire know if they won't be attending nursery for that session. This will enable them to make sure each session can run as smoothly as possible including starting promptly.

Sessions will be run throughout all the seasons, each season will bring different experiences and learning for the children. Please bare this in mind when dressing your child on their session days. Long sleeves and trousers are best as we will be in and around plants that may scratch or irritate exposed skin.

Encourage your child to reflect on their sessions, its ok if they only remember a small portion of the session. Forest School is not about what the children can produce or the skills they can say they have achieved, but about the journey they take to gain these skills. During some sessions we may produce tangible things they can take home, other sessions we may replace the natural materials back.

If you would like more information or to keep up to date with Claire's training and the sessions they are providing please visit our Forest School section on our website.

