

How do I find out more about Forest School?

Forest School is one of the Forest Education Initiative's methods of engaging young people in learning about woodlands. FEI has local cluster groups throughout Scotland many with Forest School programmes.

To find out more visit our website:

www.foresteducation.org.uk

 <http://en-gb.facebook.com/group.php?gid=101821253217957>

or contact:

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FEI in Scotland is a partnership amongst the following organisations:

Royal Scottish Forestry Society, Grounds for Learning, Learning and Teaching Scotland
Scottish Enterprise, ConFor, Forestry Commission Scotland
Central Scotland Forest Trust, Mindstretchers, Eco Schools, Lantra
Timber Trade Federation, Scottish Natural Heritage, BTCV Scotland
Field Studies Council, The Tree Council, SportsScotland



FOREST EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Forest School Scotland



Forest School enables children, young people and adults to enjoy the outdoors in a supportive environment whilst providing a unique, active learning experience.

What is Forest School?

Forest School works with a range of people in the outdoors over a period of time, introducing responsible risk-taking and setting participants up to achieve.

Children and adults are supported in their learning and encouraged to explore the outdoor environment and appreciate nature. Forest School leaders use learning and teaching strategies, which develop confidence, emotional resilience, independence, language and communication skills and increase levels of physical activity and mental wellbeing.

How is Forest School Different?

Some of these key features are not unique to Forest School but when brought together they provide an inspirational experience for the child, or adult, that they would not get elsewhere.

The key features are:

- ◆ The use of a woodland or natural area
- ◆ Regular and frequent time outdoors
- ◆ Learning can be linked to the curriculum
- ◆ The freedom to explore sense of self and place using multiple senses
- ◆ A high adult to pupil ratio

Ongoing research and evaluation from a variety of sources are showing positive benefits including improving behaviour and motivation to learn; increasing physical activity and improving mental health and well being.

Who is Forest School for?

There are a variety of user groups for Forest School including children from 3-18, those with additional support for learning, adults and families. Forest School offers an alternative way of teaching and learning in an outdoor context.



Forest School in Scotland

Forest School is an ideal tool for delivering a Curriculum for Excellence and aims:

“To develop young people who are successful learners, confident individuals, who effectively contribute towards the natural environment and are socially and environmentally responsible citizens”.

