

Forest Kindergarten

Information for
Families



Torryburn Nursery

Growing and Learning Together!

KINDNESS FUN PLAY


The Forest Kindergarten Project is part of the curriculum and involves us taking groups of children into wooded areas and allowing them to run, play and explore.

Our wooded area in Torryburn is an ideal place for this. We have identified an area within it which suits this purpose. Health and Safety is important and the appropriate risk assessments have been undertaken.



As stated above, this is not a walk in the woods, but an opportunity to allow children to explore, investigate and develop independence skills. We try to stand back and allow the children to do the above with as little interaction from an adult as possible.

To do this:

- * Children can roam within set forest boundaries. We don't let them out of sight but stay a safe distance back.
- * We will carry out a search of the area every time we use it. Obvious dangers such as water will be drawn to the children's attention. Pieces of sharp metal or glass will be removed.
- * We have a whistle that is blown if we must gather at the base which the children are familiar with.

- * We go over the rules with the children for every forest trip, allowing one of the children to share the rules with everyone each week.
- * We allow them to take 'safe' risks! We try not to hold hands, lift them over or down from situations but allow them to work out

their own strategies. We only intervene if we must.



Through participation in the Forest Kindergarten Project, children are developing in all areas of the nursery curriculum. They will be:

- * Further developing confidence, self-esteem and a sense of security.
- * Continuing to learn to care for themselves and their personal safety.
- * Developing their powers of observation using their senses.
- * Becoming aware of change and its effects on them e.g. changes in weather, trees and flowers.



- * Learning about caring for living things e.g. plants.
- * Becoming more aware of feeling good and of the importance of hygiene, exercise and personal safety.
- * Developing an appreciation of natural beauty and a sense of wonder about the world.



- * Enjoying energetic activity outdoors and the feeling of wellbeing that it brings.
- * Further developing an awareness of space.
- * Further developing their listening skills.
- * Paying attention to information and instructions from an adult.
- * Talking to other children or with an adult about their experiences.

* Using books to find interesting information about what they have seen.

