



Tool Policy

Last Review Date: September 2023

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Willow Banks Forest School aims to keep all children safe.

Willow Banks Forest School may use the following tools children during sessions:

- Bow Saw
- Jack Saw
- Tenon Saw
- Hand drill
- Clamps
- Wooden mallets
- Fixed blade knife
- Wood carving tools including chisels and spoon carving knives
- Loppers
- Secateurs
- Hammers
- Screwdrivers
- Bill hook
- Axe
- Pyrographers
- Glue guns

Tools are used with children with a minimum ratio of 1:4 supervision.

The Forest School Leader and Forest School Support Workers are responsible for overseeing safe use and maintenance of all tools and completion of the requisition list fixed to the interior of the shed..

A list of the items stored in each box is attached to each tool box and used as checklists to ensure that all items are returned safely at the end of each session.

The tool boxes containing sharp tools such as knives and axes are kept locked at all times when not in use.

The Forest School Leader and Forest School Support Staff wear appropriate footwear and clothing for all Forest School tool sessions.

Appropriate gloves, face masks/shields, goggles and hats are also available as Personal Protection Equipment when needed. Along with high vis jackets.

Activity Risk/Benefit Assessments are completed for all activities involving the use of tools.