



Children's Rights and Wellbeing Policy

Farnham Forest School is dedicated to enhancing learning through play for children through improved outdoor experiences in a variety of settings, acknowledging the positive impact outdoor provision within nature, through a child-directed environment has. We have integrated the Global Goals for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) into our provision of services.

Our initiatives align closely with the UNCRC and we actively seek opportunities to advance the provisions of the UNCRC to fulfil our mission. This policy outlines how Farnham Forest School will incorporate the UNCRC through our Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment.

Our Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment seeks to ensure all of our policies and all of our work are in alignment with both the UNCRC and as harmonised into UK law through the Children Act 1989, the Human Rights Act 1998, and all other child related legislation that needs to be read in line with the UNCRC.

Principal Articles that are relevant to Farnham Forest Schools Mission Statement.

ARTICLE 29 (education and children's development)

Education should fully develop each child's personality, talents, and mental and physical abilities. It should foster respect for their own rights, the rights of others, cultural diversity, and the natural environment. Farnham Forest School envisions a



society that values outdoor time, recognizing outdoor learning and connection with nature as essential to education for all children and young people.

By promoting regular outdoor learning and play, we affirm that education is about nurturing the whole child. We focus on developing individuality, talents, self-awareness, physical abilities, and positive mental health. Our approach emphasises that education goes beyond exam grades; it aims to cultivate happier, healthier children who contribute positively to society.

Through experiential forest school activities, we connect children with nature. We believe that experiencing nature fosters understanding and a sense of care for the environment.

ARTICLE 31 (play and cultural and artistic activities)

Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in cultural and artistic activities. Our sessions develop the practicalities for supporting child-led play outdoors.

ARTICLE 42 (knowledge of children's rights)

The state must make sure adults and children know about the principles and provisions of the UNCRC. Please refer to the links on our website. Staff have received training in understanding the rights within the UNCRC and how to implement them in daily sessions.

ARTICLE 2 (non-discrimination)

The rights set out in the UNCRC apply to every child whatever their race, colour, gender, language, religion, ethnicity, disability or any other status. Farnham Forest



School does not discriminate in any form and seeks to purposefully include everyone. Children who have additional learning needs or SEND provisions in place or welcomed and we are able to establish sessions that are more accessible to such children.

ARTICLE 3 (the best interests of the child)

In all decisions and actions that concern children, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.

ARTICLE 4 (implementing the UNCRC)

Creating administrative systems, to promote and protect children's rights. Farnham Forest School has safeguarding policies in place and all staff and volunteers have received safeguarding training, and a reporting system has been developed.

ARTICLE 5 (parental guidance)

Respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their child in exercising his or her rights and in a way that is consistent with a child's developing capacities. Through our work at Farnham Forest School we support parents to achieve this and have developed a support network of professionals should parents wish to seek further support or guidance.

ARTICLE 12 (respect for children's views)

Every child has the right to express their views on matters that affect them, and for these views to be taken into consideration. Farnham Forest School actively



supports children to voice their opinions and to actively listen to children's opinions.

At Farnham Forest School, we believe our focus on learning through play outside in nature is rooted in children's rights, sustainability, citizenship, and responsibility, supported by the UN Global Goals and the UNCRC.

Learning through play in an outdoor environment is essential for teaching sustainability, helping children to understand their natural world and communities. This approach enables them to make informed decisions that promote a sustainable and equitable society.