

# Grass Roots Muddy Boots

in collaboration with ...



## HOLIDAY CLUB PARENT INFORMATION

Updated 25.2.21 to include the latest Corona guidance.

Dear All,

We are proud to say that we were one of the first Forest Schools to get going again during the Corona virus pandemic. We are motivated by the belief that children's lives are made better by being outside and have joined forces with all of the parents who believe this too to get Forest School up and running again so a big thank you for your support in this. Your children are reaping so many benefits as a result of regular Forest School.



**Sarah Brooks** recommends **Grass Roots, Muddy Boots.**

29 July at 11:03 · 🌐

Sally & The Grass Roots team are incredible!

The concept of letting kids roam freely in a natural environment 🌳  
Letting them use their own initiative and ingenuity is exactly what the world needs a bit more of right now.

I pick my 7 & 5 year old up and every time they're caked in mud & tired but always shouting over each other to tell me everything they've done in their day.

Building confidence through exploring and imagination in a 'come rain or shine' environment is exactly the approach needed by conventional state schooling if you ask me. 💬

After the weirdest of 5 months Grass Roots Muddy Boots has provided a breath of fresh air with their approach. Thank you Sally & Team, my 2 have had an absolute ball. 🙌 😊

## Preparation before the Holiday Club

You will have received a confirmation email with a link to [important information](#):

Forest School Handbook

Information for the Holiday Club (this document)

Terms and Conditions

Disclaimer

**What to wear** - The weather can be wet in this country whatever the season so please don't underestimate the amount of clothes that you will need on/with you in a bag. Waterproof top and bottoms are essential and an extra jumper. A change of clothes is also useful, including new socks. We are outside whatever the weather so it is important that you are dressed appropriately. Long trousers are a MUST. For more guidance on summer and winter kit list please refer to 'How we stay safe' on our website. You may need insect repellent or suncream. **Please put midge spray on.** Everything together in a rucksack or bag that the children can easily recognise. It really does help us if all their belongings are labelled with their name including their water bottle.

**Packed Lunch** - We will be cooking campfire snacks each day but in addition your child will need a packed lunch. We encourage children to take their litter home for sustainability reasons but also so you can see what they have and haven't eaten during the day. Let us know any food allergies or intolerances on the booking form, we will do our very best to cater for these and may ring you for a bit of advice.

**Toilet** - We will have a compost toilet on site which will be cleaned and moved every day. It will be made private with a wind break and children seem to prefer this open air system.

**Activities** -We have planned activities that as per the timetable available on the booking site and on the website. Children have the choice whether they want to get involved in the activities or not.

What to expect on the day.

**Directions**

Please drop your child at our 'Drop Off Point' about half a mile up Hill Bank. This will be marked by a flag and myself or Siobhan waiting to greet you. Hill Bank is a narrow unmarked road, mostly used by farmers so don't be surprised if you come face to face with a tractor. Hill Bank is at the bottom of Arkendale village at the bottom of the hill that has the church on your right. It is easy to miss but is right on the bend of the road.

There are some passing points but they are few and far between so I therefore suggest that after dropping off you continue straight ahead on the road that brings you to a T junction, left towards Coneythorpe and Knaresborough and right back round the back of Arkendale. This will avoid congestion and hopefully ensure that drop off goes smoothly. Bluebell Wood is a privately owned wood which is generously lent to us by a local farming family. It would be greatly appreciated if everyone could adhere to the instructions to make the process as trouble free as possible, in order to maintain our excellent relationship with the owner. I have attached a map below and I will mark the parking drop off point with the Grass Roots Muddy Boots flag on the day. We will return with the children to this point at the end of the session to repeat the process.

If you get lost give us a ring on 07904214006/07969347028. Please see the final page of this information for a detailed map.

## Corona Guidance

As you are aware during the Coronavirus pandemic, we are running things a little differently.

One main difference is that we, like schools, are working in social bubbles of no more than 16 children. In order for the bubbles/hubs to work we require your support. Please see below the guidance which you must agree to before completing your booking.

### **Reporting Symptoms**

On the day of the session, your child must be fit and well with no symptoms of Coronavirus (symptoms include, high temperature, a new, continuous cough, loss of smell/taste). This is a gentle reminder that it is your responsibility to report any of the above symptoms for anyone in your household. If your child has symptoms, following government guidelines your child should stay home and isolate for 10 days. In the event of your child developing symptoms prior to the session, please contact us and we will issue you a full refund.

If your child develops symptoms during a session, a telephone call will be made and you must collect your child immediately, your child will be looked after outside base camp by a member of staff wearing PPE. Following government guidelines your child should stay at home and isolate for 10 days. A refund will be issued for any unused sessions.

If a child or member of staff tests positive for Coronavirus, ALL of their social bubble will be advised to self-isolate for 14 days. They will not be allowed to attend Forest School in that time. A refund will be issued for any unused sessions. Test are now available to everyone, please refer to the NHS website.

We are fortunate we learn outside; studies show that the virus is less likely to survive outside and transmission is much lower. We have also adapted our procedures to try and reduce the risk further. These include regular cleaning of the toilet facilities, regular hand washing

throughout the day and at key times, these include when first entering base camp, before lunch and before leaving the camp. Hand sanitiser is available after using the toilet. More information on NHS Test and Trace for workplaces can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-workplace-guidance>. [COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection guidance](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus). [what happens if there is a confirmed case of coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in a setting](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-happens-if-there-is-a-confirmed-case-of-coronavirus-covid-19-in-a-setting).

### Drop Off and Collection

As mentioned above, Siobhan or I will be waiting at the drop off point to greet your child. The plan is that parents drop off as swiftly as possible so *stop, drop and go* If you could arrive from 8.45am you should be off by 9.00am, this is to allow for a steady flow of cars over 10 or 15 mins. This process will be repeated at the end of the session.

### After the session

**Tick check** - There are a large number of deer living in these woods which carry ticks. Please check your child the evening they come home for evidence that they may have a tick and seek medical attention or let us know if you need assistance. Adhering to the kit list of long trousers and long socks will reduce the risk of ticks.

We are very much looking forward to playing out and your child benefiting from the opportunities that we offer. For more [information on the benefits of Forest School](https://www.grassrootsmuddyboots.com) visit [www.grassrootsmuddyboots.com](https://www.grassrootsmuddyboots.com)

Sally and Siobhan

# Grass Roots Muddy Boots

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## Safeguarding information

 All staff are DBS checked and have experience working in the outdoors and activities are fully risk assessed. Staff are trained in paediatric outdoor first aid. We are fully insured for all activities. The site has clear boundaries and is secure. **Please read our [policies and procedures](#)**

Bluebell Wood, Arkendale.  
Knaresborough

