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| Before attending | Al bookings MUST be made in advance and paid for. We will not be able to accept any on the day bookings or walk ins. Once your child has started a bubble they cannot share or give a space one week to a friend. Please ensure on your booking form that you include up to date contact details • Be advised if your child has any illnesses that makes them more susceptible to serious illness from Covid-19 that you have read our risk assessment and have consulted their Dr to ensure it is safe for them to attend• Telephone appointments are available for parents of children attending to discuss any issues they would like to discuss, anything staff should know about your child or to answer any questions. We will not be able to do this with the safe attention and time on the day of dropping off.  |
| What will your child need to bring/wear? | Hand towel for drying their hands when hand washing Filled large water bottle (to last all day)Lunch and snacks Hand soap and/or hand moisturiser, hand sanitizer If they are prone to sensitive skin or would prefer to use their own. **Clothing:**Long trousers Light long sleeve topWarm layers in case the whether/temperature dropsWaterproof trousers and light jacketAppropriate footwear (walking boots or wellies)Change of clothesSunhat and sun cream |
| How will I get to the forest school? | If driving, please ensure vehicles are parked at a safe distance from each other to ensure social distancing. On arrival, please keep the number of people walking to the meeting point to a minimum and keep together. Where possible only 1 adult & 1 child/siblings. When walking from the car park to your meeting point keep a safe distance from others who are not from your household. Please ensure you only arrive at your allotted time.We strongly advise not to lift share or take public transport. Where possible either cycle, walk, or travel in your car as a single family. If public transport is needed, please follow government guidance. |
| What happens when I arrive? | After booking you will receive an email with your pickup and drop off location. This will be at the perimeter of our site. This is to ensure we are not encouraging groups to congregate together. You will have a 15-minute window to drop off and pick your child up. This will be between 10 and 10.15 and then 3 and 3.30pm. Please do not enter the site, a member of staff will be at both meeting points to great you and welcome your child in.You child will say goodbye, we will send them over to a member of staff who will be in the log circle to show them where to put their bags. They will have a little time to explore and play while we wait for all the children to arrive. Then we will start the day off together in the log circle (socially distanced logs spacing!). We will confirm with you your contact details and any details about the child such as allergies. We will also ask a few screening questions again with you, and we will also confirm if you give photo consent for us to take photos of your child throughout the day so we can share with you what they have been up to.  |
| What happens during a session? | There will be up to 15 children in a session and they will form a bubble for the series of their session. Staff will be consistent within their bubble also. The sessions will last for 2 or 5 hours. During this time the group will get a chance to make new friends, explore our beautiful woodland site and take part in optional activities. The focus of a Forest School session is for the children to explore and learn through self-led play. Alongside this we will also have some planned activities that the children may choose to take part in.​Any planned activities are optional and are always seasonal, this may include: seasonal woodland crafts, fire lighting, marshmallow toasting and campfire songs, den building tree climbing wild food foraging and cooking, bush-craft and more!​Our holiday clubs are the perfect way for your child to step outside and enjoy the great outdoors in a safe and caring environment. ​In order to ensure each child has the best possible experience we like to keep the groups relatively small (up to 5 children, working on a 1:5 staff ratio), so there are limited spaces on each day, we recommend booking early to disappointmentIts super important to come along prepared to our sessions as we spend the whole day outside in the wood in all weathers. If it rains, the children will learn how to put up a shelter and build a fire to keep warm and dry.​ |
| Where do I collect my child from? | When you book you will receive an email with your designated collection point information on. We will have two drop off and collection sites. These will be in the top or the right hand corner to our site.  |
| What if my child needs any first aid? | We need to consider the risk of cross contamination when providing first aid to others, including bodily fluids, time spent in another person’s breathing space and the vulnerability of the first aider themselves. Fireflies Forest School will discuss the risk assessment with our first aiders and all staff, so they are confident about providing the right assistance. This includes knowing what equipment they can use to minimise risk of infection transmission, as explained below. First Aiders should consider the following: • First aiders to familiarise themselves with the symptoms of COVID-19 • First aid equipment to be checked and additional nitrile gloves and sanitiser to be made available • First aiders to try and maintain social distancing measures, where treatment of an injured person allows this• People involved in the provision of assistance to others should pay attention to sanitisation measures immediately afterwards, including washing hands.  Care must be taken when checking a casualty breathing or assessing an injury, however it is still advised that first aiders can provide help, provided they take care to wear PPE and minimise contact. It is not known exactly how the virus is transmitted from person to person, but similar viruses are known to spread in cough droplets. In line with government advice, first aiders should wash their hands or use an alcohol gel, before and after treating a casualty, and ensure that you don’t cough or sneeze over a casualty when you are treating them. First aid is essential to safeguard individuals from potential further harm and can relieve burden on the NHS. Remember the 3P model – preserve life, prevent worsening, promote recovery. PPE to be available when providing First Aid; • A fluid-repellent surgical mask • Disposable gloves • Eye protection(visor) • Apron or other suitable covering For minor injuries like small cuts or bruising, we will provide guidance to the individual on how they can treat themselves, e.g. applying a plaster or ice pack |
| What happens if an individual starts experiencing Covid-19 symptoms whilst on our site? | The main symptoms of Coronavirus are: • A recent onset of a new continuous cough or • A high temperature or • A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia) In line with the government announcement of the test and trace strategy, anyone with symptoms of the COVID-19 virus are instructed to isolate and then get tested. If the test positive for the virus, then the people you have been in close contact with will get a call from NHS test and trace and be instructed to also self-isolate. • If we know of or have suspicion that a user is COVID-19 infected we will not let the person enter the site • If already in the site, staff will take your child to a dedicated area next to our site away from the rest of the group, will wear full PPE and will follow advice on social distancing throughout. Their emergency contact will be phoned and asked to come to collect them immediately. |
| If a session is cancelled or I can no longer attend will I get a refund? | If a child is ill whether this is due to Coronavirus or another illness, we will not be able to provide a refund. If the series of sessions has not started yet, you can sell your space to a friend or through your social media, but this is up to you. We will not be responsible for filling your place, we are happy to share it on our Facebook page for you though.If the leaders or staff are ill, no replacement can be found, and a session has to be cancelled you WILL receive a full refund for that session or have the option for a catch up session.If a child can no longer attend due to rain or poor whether, NO refund can be made. We will have shelter and can also make use of the wooden huts at Hinchingbrooke.  |
| What happens if someone tests positive for COVID-19? | We are trying our hardest to provide a COVID secure environment (not allowing close contact & thorough cleaning) to prevent our attendees & staff from becoming ill. However, there are likely to be occasions when children might forget, even when given reminders not to. So, we must act on the side of caution. We will require clear communication with our families to protect our members. If a member of your household tests positive for Covi19, we will need you to immediately tell us that you are self-isolating. We will not disclose this information, unless the person who has been in our facility also tests positive. In that instance, we will then communicate this with their bubble & advise these members to self-isolate for 14 days from when they were is close contact with the individual. Close contact currently means: • Having face to face contact with someone (less than 1 metre away) • Spending more than 15 minutes within 2 metres of someone • Travelling in a car or other small vehicle with someone (even on a short journey) or close to them on a plane As previously mentioned, log circles will practise social distancing, no close contact games will be planned and children will be reminded about socially distancing when necessary.  |
| Cleaning and handwashing | All resources will be cleaned between use. This will include tools, fire strikers and any craft resources. Hammocks will be washed between bubbles and ropes will be sprayed with disinfectant and hosed down between bubbles. We will also have a minimum of 24 hours between bubbles using any resources. Much of the time this will be 72 hours. All children will be asked to wash their hands throughout the day. Specifically, on entry, before using a tool, before eating, after the toilet and on exit. We will have antibacterial soap, hands free tippy taps and hand sanitizer available. Please feel free to also pack them their own soap if they have any allergies or sensitive skin. They can also bring hand moisturiser if they are prone to getting sore hands. We have asked for all children to bring a hand towel (labelled with their name) for trying their hands after wards. Although we will have some hand paper towels available, we are trying to be as environmentally friendly as possible by reducing our waste where possible.  |
| Toileting | PLEASE ensure your child has been to the toilet prior to dropping them off with us. All children attending sessions MUST be INDEPENDENT with their toileting (except our parent stay and play sessions). We will not be able to support this in any way. We will have access to the toilets by the café. Only 1 cubicle and 1 sink is open, so they will enter the building alone, and no one else will be able to enter until they are out. 2 members of staff will always wait on the outside of the building with the exit door in full view. Children will be reminded to wash their hands before returning to the site. We will plan toilet visits into the day in co ordination with any nature walks we may do or if we have our lunch in a different section of the woods. However, we do understand when a child needs to go, they need to go! So, they will be aware they just need to let us know and we can walk them down there. Hinchingbrooke Country park have a cleaning schedule and policy around the cleaning of their toilets.  |
| Face Coverings | Currently it is not compulsory for people in England to wear face coverings when attending outdoor activities such as Forest School. Children are welcome to use these if they wish and if they are aware of how to wear it correctly (such as not touching it once on etc). However, this will not be a requirement for them in our sessions. Some of our staff may choose to wear a mask during more intimate activities, where they are required to have closer contact with children for the purpose of tuition for example with tool use. Staff will also were mask when cooking.  |