



Anti-Bullying 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.

Good behaviour is positively encouraged within Willow Banks Forest School, with much emphasis on self-discipline, courtesy and consideration for others.

We recognise that children respond well to praise and therefore use it freely to promote good behaviour.

We also do all that we can to prevent bullying, by reinforcing the school ethos in which bullying is regarded as unacceptable.

We aim to:

- Build self esteem, independence, motivation and learning in a safe environment
- Reinforce collaborative behaviour
- Promote awareness, respect and care for others
- Have a consistent approach to expectations both inside and outside of school
- Develop an awareness of acceptable behaviour in an outdoor environment
- Develop both children's and adults pride in their achievements

To do this, the Forest School Leader will:

- Create a positive environment to encourage caring, nurturing and acceptable behaviour to all i.e. one another, the environment and the equipment we will be using.
- Be mindful of the need to maintain safety at all times
- Establish clearly defined standards of expected behaviour
- Place the needs of the children, including their preferred learning styles, behavioural needs and school curriculum to maximise individual success and raise self esteem
- Provide a positive role model for children and volunteers
- Promote effective relationships in which all are accepted, valued and treated equally.
- Respond promptly to allegations of bullying and put in place appropriate sanctions
- Keep detailed incident reports to show patterns of behaviour and sanctions used

The children will:

- Listen carefully to instructions and requests especially concerning safety
- Develop an acceptable attitude towards the environment and one another

- Treat each other and property with respect
- Allow others the freedom to learn without discrimination or harassment

Sanctions

There will be rewards that can be achieved throughout Forest School Learning. If sanctions need to be given, the Forest School Leader will take the following steps:

- Re-engage the child into the activity
- Give a verbal warning by taking the child to one side and reminding them of the importance of acceptable behaviour and what we are trying to aim for.
- Give the child thinking time away from the activities (time out)
- If three time outs are given in one session, the child's parents will be informed of the behaviour and the possibility of missing the next session.
- If time out is needed on three consecutive sessions, or the behaviour places them or other children at risk, a letter will inform parents and the child will miss the next session.

We will endeavour to include all children in Forest School sessions.

The Forest School Leader will aim to make each new session a new beginning – a fresh start.

If a child's actions are placing themselves or others in danger, the following will happen:

1. The child will be taken to a quiet space to allow them time to calm themselves and then reflect.
2. The forest school leader and support worker will help the child reflect on the incident and talk through appropriate behaviour.
3. Parents will be invited to come into school and talk with both the Forest Schools Leader, the child's support worker and their child as to how they may solve this.
4. Where behaviour cannot be resolved and is deemed unsafe, the child will need to be excluded from Forest School sessions
5. If behaviour is less severe, the child will be given a sanction based on the school Behaviour Policy (miss a freeplay etc)
6. In all cases of behaviour that does not meet expectations, an incident report will be completed by the Forest School Leader or Forest School Support Staff and kept in the incident file.