

Forest School – Fire Protocol

Review Cycle:

Last Reviewed: 18th December
2018

Responsible for Review: Forest
School Leader

Next Review Date: September

'Fires will only be lit by a Forest School Leader following this safety policy when the children are ready in every way; emotionally and physically.

Considerations before deciding to have a fire:

- Wind direction.
- No combustible materials nearby/over hanging branches.
- Soil type – ensure not too peaty.

Safety -clothing and hair:

- No hair/Jewellery dangling – hair tied back.
- No gloves on when placing materials.

Safe Sitting:

- Seating should be positioned 1.5m away from fire.
- Allow gaps for between seating arrangements for escape routes.
- Invite children into the inner circle.
- Ensure the area between the seating area and fire pit is free from debris and trip hazards.
- Children will be taught they must never the cross the inside ring and taught to move by stepping over the seating log and walking outside the seating area.
- Seating in line of smoke will be avoided. Children will be taught to turn their heads if smoke is coming in their direction.

Safe Management:

- Fires will be lit by the forest school leader and only when the leader is confident the group is able to carry out instructions safely.
- Fires will be lit using a fire steel, matches and firelighters can be used but will be stored safely away in a fire proof box. No flammable liquids will be used to light or accelerate fires.
- Never leave the fire unattended.

- Have a bucket of water available in case of an emergency burn/scald and a fire blanket.
- The fire will be lit in a designated area used only for this purpose. The area will be cleared of dried leaves, wood and we or porous rocks which might explode if heated. A fire bowl/pit will be used to prevent the spread of fire on the school site.

Safe Extinguishing:

- Spread out the embers of the fire.
- Pour on water gently using a watering can.
- Using the back of the hand, check for heat, and then apply further water if necessary.

School Fire and Emergency Evacuation Procedures will be followed in emergency