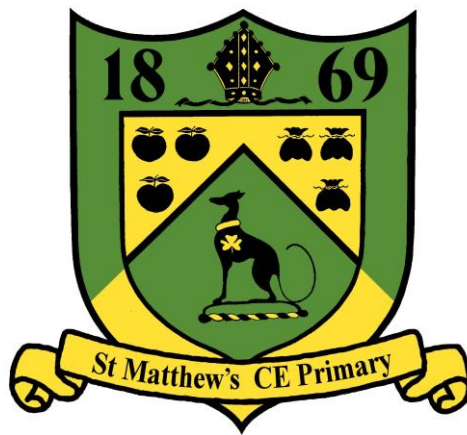


St Matthew's C.E. Primary School



Policy for Health and Safety in Forest School

*'That the man of God may be competent, equipped
for every good work.'*

Timothy 3:17

Review date September 2023

Overview

- The Trained and Named Forest School Leader is always the person in charge of Forest School sessions.
- The Forest School Leader has an overall duty of care for the children in their charge. However all adults involved in the Forest School session are required to take all reasonable steps to ensure the children's safety.
- All adult helpers **MUST** sign and date a form to show that they have read and understood the handbook and the risk assessments appropriate to the session in which they are helping. They must sign and date the form stating that they comply with the general operating procedures for the Forest School (code of conduct).
- The Forest School Leader will always carry and take a first aid kit into the forest every session.
- The Forest School Leader will carry their mobile phones on them (for internet use). This has been agreed by the Head Teacher.
- In the event of emergency, the Forest Leader will ensure that the school contacts the emergency services.
- The Forest School Leader will review the risk assessments before every trip into the School's Forest Site.
- When the tools are used the adult child ratio will vary depending on the age and ability of the group.
- The Forest School Leader is responsible for the maintenance, cleaning and checking of all tools and equipment to be used at Forest School, prior to their use.
- The Forest School Leader is responsible in training the children in how to use the tools and equipment safely and appropriately.
- The Forest School Leader will be responsible for the pre-visit check of the Forest School site prior to a Forest School session.
- The Forest School leader will complete an assessment of the weather conditions prior to each session to ensure it is safe to enter the site, and that the children are wearing clothing appropriate to the weather conditions
- The Forest School leader will investigate any accident that occurs and update risk assessments if deemed necessary.

The school has a Health and Safety policy which you can find, together with the local procedures to be followed by all staff, in the Policies Document folder on the school's network and on the school website. Alternatively, you will find this on the school's website.

Linked policies

Health and Safety

Equal Opportunity Policy

Accident and Emergency Procedures

Child Protection Policy and procedure

Equality Policy

Medical conditions

First Aid Policy