

DERRYMOUNT



FOREST SCHOOL

WHAT IS FOREST SCHOOL?

The Forest School experience encompasses the child as a whole; this ensures they are engaged, healthy and safe as well as being challenged. We feel that young people are at their best from more hands-on experiences in a natural outdoor environment. By children exploring the natural world around them brings a sense of discovery and interest in their outdoor environment that they may not normally experience.

We encourage our school community to achieve the best they can and to become as independent and self-sufficient as possible. To ensure that everyone is empowered to reach their goals and make the most of opportunities that are offered. Therefore, every pupil will have access to our Forest School outdoor area, working alongside our fully qualified Forest School practitioner to endeavour new experiences.

Our Forest school lessons begin with a discussion about safety in our outdoor area. Our lesson will involve a game, tool and fire safety talk, all dependent on the activities planned for the day. At the end of the lesson pupils will reflect on the days learning. The time in-between is led by our young people and supported by staff. Pupils may choose from activities including:

- Explore the outdoor environment.
- Hunt for minibeasts (minibeast identification sheets provided).
- Build dens.
- Plant seeds or take care of plants on site (pruning).
- Work independently or together as a team.
- Use tools with adult supervision.
- To create a fire under adult supervision.