

Forest School Lead

Grade: Grade 5

Job Type: Permanent

Responsible to: Assistant Headteacher

Main purpose of the role

To support teaching and learning across the primary age range including planning and delivering high-quality Forest School sessions. The role focuses on supporting children's academic progress, wellbeing, and development through both classroom learning and outdoor, nature-based experiences.

This post holder is responsible for ensuring that all county Safeguarding Children policies are adhered to and concerns are raised in accordance with these policies

Forest School Leader duties

Plan and deliver Forest School sessions for primary-aged children in line with Forest School principles.

- Facilitate child-led, hands-on learning to build confidence, resilience, and curiosity.
- Teach outdoor skills such as den building, tool use, nature exploration, and fire safety (age appropriate).
- Adapt activities to suit a wide range of abilities, including younger children in EYFS.
- Carry out daily risk assessments on Smartlog and ensure all sessions are safe and inclusive.
- Foster respect for nature and promote environmental awareness.
- Manage and maintain Forest School equipment and outdoor learning areas.
- Monitor and record pupils' progress in personal, social, and emotional development.
- To support the school in implementing their Carbon Action plan. General Responsibilities
- Safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in line with school policies.
- Build positive relationships with pupils, staff, and parents/carers.
- Support whole-school activities, trips, and events.
- Work collaboratively as part of a primary school team.
- Follow school policies, including safeguarding, health & safety, and behaviour.
- Engage in relevant training and professional development opportunities.

Person Specification

Essential

- Experience working with primary-aged children.
- Teaching Assistant qualification (Level 2 or 3) or equivalent experience.
- Forest School Level 3 qualification or outdoor learning equivalent.

- Good understanding of child development.
- Strong communication and teamwork skills.
- A caring, patient, and enthusiastic approach.
- Knowledge of safeguarding and child protection requirements.

Desirable

- Paediatric or outdoor First Aid qualification.
- Knowledge of the primary national curriculum.

Working Conditions

- Combination of classroom and outdoor work in all weather conditions.
- Physically active role, including setting up equipment and working on uneven terrain.
- Flexibility required for trips and outdoor sessions.