



September 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

Forest School Sessions - Outdoor Education Programme

During the course of this academic year your child will have Forest School sessions as part of their weekly timetable.

These sessions will be a combination of being on the school site and spending one afternoon a day in a local wooded area separate from the school site - during this academic year this will be a Monday for year 11, Tuesday for year 9 and Thursday for year 10. Students will travel to and from the site in the school minibus.

We really feel that it is such a great opportunity for your child to take part in a practical course. To facilitate this, we will be leaving school after period 3 at approximately 12.40pm (this will allow students time to change from school uniform into their Forest Schools kit) and we will return to school by approximately 2.30pm - this will ensure that all students are back on site in good time to change into their school uniform to be dismissed at the end of the school day. It will not be possible to dismiss any student from anywhere other than the school site.

It is anticipated that we will be working in the wooded area throughout the year in all weathers (only in extreme weather conditions will we not take students due to the inherent health and safety concerns.) Therefore, students should expect to get muddy and they should come to school with the following kit when it is their day to leave site:

A full change of clothes which includes trousers (not jeans), layers of clothing to keep warm in winter, wellington boots/walking boots and a full set of waterproofs (jacket and trousers.) Please use the google consent form to indicate if it is required for the school to try and provide these (we do have some available for students to borrow.)

A packed lunch and plenty to drink (in accordance with the schools healthy eating policy) as students will be out of school over lunchtime (students who receive free school meals will have a packed lunch provided by the school.) Students might want to bring a warm drink in a flask.

The wooded area we are using has kindly been offered to us by a local member of the public who uses it to host small outdoor events, it is therefore expected and imperative that students demonstrate the highest standards of behaviour and respect for the environment. As the course develops your child will be using tools, lighting fires and be given responsibility for working safely with others. Should members of staff have any concerns about the behaviour of a student we reserve the right to keep that student in school until further notice.

To give consent, please click the link [here](#). I look forward to receiving your reply via the google consent form by **Friday 30th September 2022**.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at ityrrell@mysackville.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Mr Ian Tyrrell
Alternative Provision Curriculum Coordinator