

## **Kirkleatham Hall School Forest School Progression**

The 6 Principles of Forest School	
Principal 1	Forest School is a long-term process of frequent and regular sessions in our woodland area, rather than a one-off visit. Planning, adaptation, observations and reviewing are integral elements of Forest School.
Principal 2	Forest School takes place in a woodland or natural wooded environment to support the development of a relationship between the learner and the natural world.
Principal 3	Forest School aims to promote the holistic development of all those involved, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners
Principal 4	Forest School offers learners the opportunity to take supported risks appropriate to the environment and to themselves.
Principal 5	Forest School is run by qualified Forest School practitioners who continuously maintain and develop their professional practice.
Principal 6	Forest School uses a range of learner-centred processes to create a community for development and learning

### Character Progression

Some of our learners find new environments difficult and this can lead to sensory and emotional dysregulation. KHS Forest School provides a supportive and child led environment that allows the pupils to develop their confidence and engagement within the forest however that presents. We call this our Forest School Character Progression and our pupils increase their engagement in the forest and develop new skills.

Forest School Character
I can enter forest school area with support from an adult.
I can enter forest school with lessening support from an adult.
I can enter the (staffed) forest school independently without the need for adult guidance or support.
I can leave the forest area when requested
I will remain in an area of the forest school with an adult.
I will remain in a specific area of forest school with lessening adult support.
I will explore an increasing number of the areas of the forest with adult prompts
I will explore multiple areas of the forest without adult support.
I will move my body to explore an area of the forest, e.g. climb, crawl, jump
I will start to notice and move towards forest school structures e.g., hammocks, tension lines, music area
I will engage with forest school structures with adult prompting and support
I will engage with forest school structures independently
I will notice an adult engaging in an activity e.g. digging, tying a rope.
I will pay increasing attention to an adult who is engaging in an activity.
I will start to pick up or explore the resources an adult is using e.g. sticks, spade
I will mimic the actions of the adult using the same resources e.g. lean a stick against a tree, manipulate a rope to attempt a knot.
I will actively seek out a specific resource and engage with this with a purpose e.g. leaning multiple sticks against a tree, digging with a trowel.
I can start to use a tool for its intended purpose. E.g. hit with a mallet, attempt to connect something together with rope.

### Skills Progression

For learners whose Forest School engagement has reached a point where it is appropriate and necessary to learn new, specific skills in order to progress learning and understanding, we have created the KHS Forest School Skills Progression Document. This document allows us to remain true to the child led principals of forest school, but teach specific skills in order to increase independence, risk taking, character and open up the forest even further to our learners.

Tools	
Skills	Knowledge
I can use a vegetable peeler to: remove bark from a stick Peel vegetables for cooking I can use loppers I can use secateurs I can use a bow saw I can use a bill hook I can use a knife	I have listened and understood the tool talk. I can identify the tool needed for a specific purpose I can safely pick up a tool to avoid injuring myself or others. I can use the tool with support from an adult I can use the support with adult supervision I can use the tool independently. I can store the tool safely

Fire	
Skills	Knowledge
<p>I know where it is safe to have a fire</p> <p>I can set up a fire area safely</p> <p>I can gather sticks for a fire</p> <p>I can build a fire</p> <p>I can use a fire striker</p> <p>I can light a fairy pillow/Feather Stick</p> <p>I can light a fire</p> <p>I can keep a fire going for five minutes</p> <p>I can keep a fire going for ten minutes</p> <p>I can keep a fire going for half an hour</p> <p>I can extinguish a fire safely</p> <p>I can remove all trace of a fire</p> <p>I can cook on a fire</p>	<p>I understand that fire can be dangerous</p> <p>I understand the three components needed for fire</p> <p>I understand the rules within a fire circle</p> <p>I know I need to wear a glove to feed the fire</p> <p>I know I need to have water available when I have a fire</p> <p>I know how to extinguish a fire safely</p> <p>I know how to remove all trace of a fire safely</p>

Building a Structure	
Skills	Knowledge
Build a small den Build a larger den that maintains its structure Build a large natural den that maintains Build a large den using mixed materials including using a tarpaulin Build a bridge Build a tall tower	I know how to join two pieces of wood together I know how to make a tripod/tepee structure I know how to make an apex structure using a ridge pole or line I know how to peg out a tarp I know how to fold a tarp I know how to wind a rope I know how to make a weight bearing structure I know how to evaluate and improve my structure

Knowledge of Nature	
Skills	Knowledge
I can identify more than one type of plant I can identify seeds I can identify more than one type of trees I can identify animals and some of distinctive features I can identify more than one type of bird and some of their features I can identify minibeasts and their habitats	I can describe the habitat I can identify what is needed to plant a seed and ensure its growth I can show correct handling I can talk about conservation issues

Knots and Connections	
Skills	Knowledge
Wrapping ropes around trees and sticks Attempting to connect two ropes Basic knot Clove hitch Half hitch Timber hitch Quick release knot Reef knot Square lash Diagonal lash Sheer lash Frapping	I know I can connect two ropes together I know that I can use rope or string to connect items together I have had this knot demonstrated to me I have practised tying this knot I can tie this knot accurately I can explain to others how to tie this knot accurately

Risks and Forest Safety	
Skills	Knowledge

I can identify and show awareness of specific factors in the forest.

I know what plants may prickle or sting me  
I know which plants which may be poisonous  
I know how to around about safely depending on the conditions in the woodland  
I know how to move large objects  
I know how to help others stay safe in the woodland I know that I need to be gentle with creatures if I find any