

Use of Tools Policy

Tools will only be used under the supervision of a Forest school Practitioner.

The child responsible for the tool will give a tool-talk before it is used. The practitioner may designate a responsible adult to supervise small groups.

The tools will be stored in an appropriate tool box and will be checked and counted by the practitioner at the end of the lesson.

When tools are not in use they will be stored in the designated place (Tool Box in Polytunnel or Boiler room).

Protective personal equipment such as gloves will be provided and stored with the tools.

Gloves will be worn in accordance with the tool use (as per tool talk).

Tools should be used no closer than two arms' lengths plus a tool length from anyone not using the tool.

Tools should be carried in the manner demonstrated in the tool talk. i.e. on the outside of the body, blade facing down, cutting edge facing backwards.

When the tool is not in immediate use but is still being used for the job it should be placed at the side of the individual with the handle facing forward and the blade facing in.

When tools are used in paired situations there should always be a leader who directs the partner. They should use the 'Respect position' where appropriate.

When a sheath-knife is used the cutting action should be on the outside of the thigh away from the body.

Tools shall be regularly maintained, cleaned and sharpened.

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