



Little Crickets Forest School

Admissions Policy

At Little Crickets Forest School we care for up to 20 children, aged 2 years and above. The numbers and ages of children admitted to the forest school comply with the legal space requirements set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). When considering admissions, we are mindful of staff: child ratios and the facilities available at the forest school.

The Forest School is open 51 weeks of the year from 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday. The Forest School does close for Bank holidays, a week between Christmas and New Year and for 3 inset days through the year to provide staff training days.

A child requiring a full-time place may have preference over one requiring a part-time place. This is dependent upon availability.

Children attending Little Crickets Forest School are required to attend a minimum of four sessions per week. This ensures consistency and supports the development of a stable and engaging learning environment. Parents and guardians may utilize Early Years funding to help cover the cost of these sessions, subject to funding eligibility and availability.

When our admissions teams receive a request to join our Forest School, we take the following matters into account when prioritising and deciding on admission:

- Availability of places, taking into account staff to child ratios the age of the child and any registration requirements.
- The Forest School offers places on a first come, first serve basis, as well as a waiting list
- The Forest School will ensure that they are able to meet and maintain the welfare for all the children who already have access to the provision
- Children who already have siblings who attend

We operate an inclusion, equality and diversity policy and ensure that all children have access to forest school places and services irrespective of their gender, race, disability, religion or belief or sexual orientation of parents. We aim to make our setting accessible to children and families from all sections of the local community through open, fair and clearly communicated procedures.

Prior to a child attending forest school, parents must complete and sign a registration form and acceptance of the terms and conditions form. These forms provide the forest school with personal details relating to the child. For example, name, date of birth, address, emergency contact details, parental responsibilities, dietary requirements, collection arrangements, fees and sessions, contact details for



parents, doctor's contact details, health visitor contact details, allergies, parental consent and vaccinations etc.

The Forest School manager is responsible for managing the occupancy and bookings. Where there are no current or immediate future vacancies parents will be offered a place on the waiting list. Parents must complete the first stage of the registration process by providing us with page 1 of the registration form and paying a registration fee. The child will then be added to the waiting list. If vacancies arise, parents on the waiting list will be considered first above new enquiries to the forest school and where suitable, will be offered first refusal of vacancies. Children on the waiting list who have siblings with active bookings within the forest school are given priority and are moved to the top of the waiting list in order of date registration was received.

Please see our terms and conditions, up to date versions available on our website and our Fees and Session time document for more admission detail.

Common FAQ's

Can I swap my child's days?

We will endeavour to help all our families where possible. Session changes are subject to availability.

Can I request additional ad hoc days for my child?

Yes. You will need to email The Forest School Manager to Office@littlecricketsforeetschool.co.uk with your request giving at least one week's notice. If we have availability, then we will confirm over email, add the session to Blossom and add the additional cost to your next invoice. Sadly, we cannot accommodate late requests and cannot guarantee we will be able to accommodate your request.

What is your notice period?

Once you have accepted a place for your child, then you will be subject to our terms of notice which are outlined in our Terms and Conditions.

Do I need to pay for the sessions if my child is on holiday or absent?

Yes, payment is required to maintain your child's place at Little Crickets Forest School, even during periods of holiday or absence.