



FOREST SCHOOL CHARTER

We believe that children attending at Norcot Early Years Centre should access regular Forest School with an emphasis placed on exploring and understanding the natural world through play. Children will have opportunities to develop their independence, self-esteem and confidence. In nature, they will build a sense of who they are through exploring, taking a risk and problem solving. This will empower them to learn how to manage failure, to build resilience and to try something new. This holistic approach will develop a child's emotional, spiritual, intellectual, social, physical development as well as providing an environment to rehearse communication and language skills

There is no set curriculum, instead learning is intended to be a co-operative process between the children and staff through a system of observation, reflection, and communication. Our Forest School sessions place an emphasis on self-reflection, equipping children with emotional and social skills while building a positive relationship with the natural world which we hope will remain with them through to adulthood.

Children at Norcot Nursery will...

- Explore freely and be aware of the environment around them using all of their senses.
- Follow their unique play interests and build confidence through problem solving.
- Be supported to identify and manage risk in different environments.
- Develop resilience and perseverance
- Build social skills including turn-taking, team work and problem solving.
- Experience hands-on learning in a natural environment.
- Understand that they can use natural resources in different ways.
- Experience the awe and wonder of the natural environment.
- Learn how to take care of the natural environment.

To enable this the children will have opportunities to...

- Build a den
- Look for and take care of bugs
- Paint with mud
- Make muddy pies
- Make a camp fire
- Go on a bear hunt!
- Look for fairies
- Make a kite
- Make a bird feeder
- Join in with a treasure hunt
- Have time to be still in nature
- Make wood chimes
- Go on a picnic
- Splash in a muddy puddle