

Forest School Training Neroche, Somerset March 2012 Modular course

Neroche Forest School training

The Forest School Training Company (FSTC) is running a modular Forest School training course at Young Wood site at Neroche, Somerset starting in March 2012. This course is aimed at those wishing to become Forest School leaders (level 3), including those who have no formal qualifications or experience of Forest School, as well as those who have already completed their level 2 Forest School assistants qualification. The modular format also caters for those wishing to train to assist at Forest School (level 2).

Module	Description	Dates
Module 1	Forest School Foundation	27 th & 28 th March 2012
Module 2	Leader 1	1 st & 2 nd May 2012
Module 3	Leader 2	19 th & 20 th June 2012
Module 4	Leader 3	10 th & 11 th September 2012
Module 5	Practical Skills Assessment	12 th September 2012
Module 6	Delivery Assessment	During October 2012

Training Times – training starts at 9am and finishes at 5pm for Modules 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5.

Twilight session – there will be a tour of Young Wood site for all students from 5pm – 6.30pm on the 1st May 2012 (straight after day 1 of module 2).

Training Venue Neroche – Young Wood site at Neroche, Taunton, Somerset TA3 5AZ

Choosing which level of training

Students can choose the level of training they wish to complete.

Level 2 training – if you want to assist at Forest School, then the level 2 training is for you. The level 2 requires both modules 1 & 2 to be completed. Students will need to assist on 3 sessions of Forest School run by a level 3 qualified FS leader and write up their observations to gain the qualification.

Level 3 training – this is the nationally recognised level of training required if you want to lead at Forest School. For this level of training all 6 modules will need to be completed.

Level 2/3 Top Up - Students who have already been certificated with the OCN level 2 qualification can top up to level 3 (Forest School Leader) by completing modules 3, 4, 5 & 6.

Module	Description	Level 2 Forest School Assistant	Level 3 Forest School Practitioner (Leader)	Level 2/3 Top up * Forest School Practitioner (Leader)
Module 1	Forest School Foundation	√	√	
Module 2	Leader 1	√	√	
Module 3	Leader 2		√	√
Module 4	Leader 3		√	√
Module 5	Practical Skills Assessment		√	√
Module 6	Delivery Assessment		√	√

The Modules

Mod 1) Forest School Foundation. This module is an introduction to the concept of Forest School, covering general health & safety, basic identification skills, an introduction to play and its links to Forest School.

Mod 2, 3 & 4) Leader 1, Leader 2 & Leader 3. These modules are progressive, each covering the material in increasing depth and each requiring completion of a module workbook. The content of these three Leader Modules will cover the application of learning theories to Forest School, methods of increasing self-esteem and working on emotional intelligence, group management, communication strategy, risk management, ecological impact assessment/management plan, as well as working with

tools and campfires for use at Forest School.

Mod 5) Practical Skills Assessment. Level 3 students will be assessed on their competence with knots and their safe use of tools and firecraft.

Mod 6) Delivery Assessments – Level 3 students are assessed for leadership skills in Module 6. This assessment takes place at the student's FS site. An additional charge of £75 plus 40p mile is levied for students working outside a 30-mile radius of the training venue.

First Aid – students training to level 3 students will need to hold a valid First Aid certificate for working with children (minimum 2-day Paediatric First Aid). We strongly recommend the 2-day ITC First Aid for Outdoors training course (which includes paediatrics). This course can be booked separately through FSTC website. Students will need to ensure they have a valid First Aid certificate in place before they start their Forest School Programme of 6 sessions (after module 5).

Equipment and Kit - The tools and equipment required on the training will be provided by the FSTC. Students will need to bring their own waterproofs and outdoor clothing. **Safety boots (approved safety wear) are also required for those doing the level 3 training and will be needed on module 3 & 4 of the training course.**

Coursework - At the end of each Module (1,2,3 & 4) students will be given a number of workbooks to complete. Students are given deadlines for each of the modular workbooks and will need to send in their completed workbooks for marking. After the assessment in Module 6, students will need write up their evidence from the 6-week Forest School Programme they have delivered and been assessed on and send this in for marking.

Estimated course commitment

	Taught time (hours)	Self-study time (hours)	Total (hours)
Level 3	72	110	182
Level 2	32	30	62
Level 1	16	14	30

Course costs

	Cost of course
Level 3	£750 plus vat (£900)
Level 2	£459 plus vat (£550)
Level 2/3 Top up	£400 plus vat (£480)

Entry requirements

Level 3 candidates must:

- Be over 21 years of age
- Be a qualified teacher, play worker, youth worker or support worker (to **level 2** or equivalent) **OR** compile a portfolio of at least **2 years experience** of working with their chosen client group in a leadership capacity.
- Hold a current enhanced CRB disclosure
- Hold a current First Aid qualification suitable for working outdoors with children
- Have access to a group with whom they'll run a 6-session practice Forest School programme

Level 2 candidates must:

- Be over 18 years of age
- Have some experience and/or qualifications in working with their chosen client group
- Hold a current enhanced CRB disclosure
- Assist in 3 sessions of a programme run by a Level 3 qualified FS practitioner.

Level 2/3 Top up candidates must:

- Be over 21 years of age
- Must have been certificated with the OCN level 2 qualification and will need to provide the level 2 coursework they submitted
- Hold a current enhanced CRB disclosure
- Hold a current First Aid qualification suitable for working outdoors with children
- Have access to a group with whom they'll run a 6-session practice Forest School programme