

Forest School Practitioner Training Rochdale January 2012 Modular course

Modular Course Format

This is a new format for our Forest School training. This format is divided into 2-day 'modules' which should be easier for those who work in schools to get time off for training. Furthermore each module has workbooks requiring short written answers to be completed. This should ensure that students are completing their coursework whilst they are progressing through the training modules and are not left needing to complete a full coursework portfolio at the end of their course. We continue to require two assessments for those training to level 3 (practical skills assessment and delivery assessment) as this ensures a level of competence with tools, fire and most importantly leadership at Forest School.

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.

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 | | √ | √ |

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

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.

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.

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

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 – level 3 students will need to hold a valid First Aid for Outdoors (which includes paediatrics) before they run 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 are required to purchase their own Safety boots** (approved Safety Wear) and provide their own waterproofs and outdoor clothing for use on the training.

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 | £850 plus vat (£1020) |
| Level 2 | £508 plus vat (£609.60) |
| Level 2/3 Top up | £450 plus vat (£540) |

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 Outdoor First Aid qualification
- 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 18 years of age
- Must have been certificated with the OCN level 2 qualification

Course Dates Rochdale January 2012

| Module | Description | Dates |
|----------|-----------------------------|--|
| Module 1 | Forest School Foundation | 31 st January & 1 st February 2012 |
| Module 2 | Leader 1 | 21 st & 22 nd February 2012 |
| Module 3 | Leader 2 | 20 th & 21 st March 2012 |
| Module 4 | Leader 3 | 23 rd & 24 th April 2012 |
| Module 5 | Practical Skills Assessment | 25 th April 2012 |
| Module 6 | Delivery Assessment | 25 th – 29 th June 2012 |

Training Venue Rochdale – Sunny Brow Nursery School, Archer Road, Middleton, Manchester M24 4AD