



# The Ryde School

Pleasant Rise, Hatfield, Herts, AL9 5DR

01707 267333 | [www.ryde.herts.sch.uk](http://www.ryde.herts.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Sue Thompson

14th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As part of the Early Years Foundation Stage provision at The Ryde your child will be able to take part in weekly Forest School sessions. The sessions will take place within the school grounds every Wednesday starting this week on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September**.

During Forest School your child will be developing a whole range of skills, see the attached poster for the many and varied skills children develop when they play outdoors.

**Every Wednesday** it is **essential** that your child has **appropriate clothing** with them to wear outside during Forest School especially as the weather can be so variable and may change from when they arrive at school.

**Each item needs to be named clearly, as other children may have the same items of clothing/boots, this additional clothing can be bought to school in named plastic bag.**

1. A pair welly boots, that they can put and off themselves, with enough space to wear two pairs of socks (or a pair of thick socks) if these are needed as the weather gets colder in order for feet to stay warm. The named boots can be kept at school on the class welly rack.
2. An extra pair of warm leggings/ trousers especially for all children who are still wearing shorts, skirts or tunics so that they do not get injuries to their legs from the brambles and stinging nettles and if they choose to climb trees during the session.
3. A warm waterproof jacket and waterproof trousers or an all in one waterproof suit.
4. When the weather is cooler – a pair of gloves (not mittens), scarf or snood and hat.

The way we teach children to do 'superhero coats' is shown on this short video

<https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/kids/resources/ot-activityinformation-sheets/putting-on-and-taking-off-a-jacket-information-sheet/>

Please practice this at home as well as supporting your child practising putting on / off shoes and welly boots, doing up coats and putting on gloves – these are important self-care skills and increase independence for your child not only in forest school but when they chose to play outside during child initiated learning.

If you have any further questions about Forest School, please speak to Nursery Class Staff.

Thank you for your co-operation.

*Sue Thompson*



## **When I'm playing outside I'm learning**

Absorption Arranging Adapting Action  
Animals Autonomy Balance Belonging  
Calculating Caring Change Cause and Effect  
Chemical Reaction Community Classification  
Creative thinking Construction Co-operation  
Density Communication Creatures Culture  
Connections Confidence Depth Conservation  
Distance Evaporation Exploring Force  
Experimenting Environment Friction Feelings  
Friendship Gravity Height Identification  
Inertia Insects Investigation Initiative  
Independence Invention Light Listening  
Language Manipulating Movement Matching  
Measurement Mass Myself Negotiation Nature  
Nurturing Number Observing Ordering  
Patterning Physics Planning Problem Solving  
Propulsion Plants Questioning Reaction  
Risk Responsibility Self Control Size Shape  
Speed Spatial Representation Suspension  
Scent Seasons Scientific Method Touch  
Temperature Team Work Texture Vibration  
Volume Weight Weather and so much more!

**Playing outside makes me  
happier, healthier, smarter**