

Purpose Statement

Level 3 Certificate in Introduction to Forest School Principles

The primary purpose of these qualifications is to develop knowledge and/or skills in the subject area of Forest Schools. This level 3 qualification will provide you with an introduction to the Forest School ethos and learning in the outdoors. This qualification is part of a suite that the knowledge, understanding and skills needed for learners to take part in Forest School activities. They enable learners to experience the world beyond the classroom as an essential part of their learning and personal development, and have been designed in accordance with the guidance outlined in the Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto 2006.

Who is it for?

This qualification is designed to meet the needs of those with an interest in working in the outdoors, including:

- Teachers and teaching assistants
- Other professionals

What does this qualification cover?

To achieve the Certificate, you will need to complete 18 credits and commit to 180 hours of learning.

You will be required to complete 18 mandatory credits:

- Delivery of a Forest School Programme
- Forest School Programmes and the Woodland Environment
- Learning and Development at a Forest School Programme
- Planning a Forest School Programme
- Practical Skills for a Forest School Programme

What are the Entry Requirements?

This qualification is suitable for learners aged 19+ at the point of registration. Please note, the minimum age for Forest School leaders is 21. There are no specific prior achievements required. However, evidence of achievement at Level 2 may be an advantage.

What are the Progression Opportunities?

This qualification provides a mechanism for you to recognise and develop your skills and establish personal, learning and employment goals. You may choose to progress onto a higher level learning, including:

- Foundation Degree in Environmental Conservation Management
- BSC Rural Land Management
- Forestry and Arboriculture qualifications

You may choose to progress onto further learning within education and teaching, including:

- Open Awards Level 3 Award in Education and Training (RQF)
- Open Awards Level 4 Certificate in Education and Training (RQF)

What are the Assessment Methods?

You will be required to produce evidence within the context of a Forest School Programme.

You will be required to complete a portfolio of evidence to achieve this qualification. Types of evidence included in your portfolio could include:

- Videos/photographs
- Reflective journals
- Questions/answers
- Worksheets
- Recorded discussions with your tutor

Who supports this qualification?

This qualification was developed with and is supported by training providers and Further Education Colleges, including The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside; Baskerville School; Beyond the Forest; and Silver Fox Training.