



## Advanced Forest School – Tool Use OCN Level 3 Information for Learners

### The Training

The Advanced Forest School – Tool Use training course is part of a set of Progression Awards designed by the Forest School Training Company (FSTC). These Advanced Training courses have been developed specifically as CPD (continued professional development) training to progress the range of practical skills of the Forest School leader (Level 3) and FS Assistant (Level 2). The training will enable FS leaders to develop their practical skills beyond that of their initial training and help develop progressing the learning of the children and young people attending their own Forest School practice. The Advanced Forest School – Tool Use course is accredited by the Open College Network (OCN).

### The Training Providers

The Forest School Training Company (FSTC) are one of the leading providers of Forest School training across the UK. All training courses are accredited by the Open College Network (OCN) and recognised nationally. Unlike other training providers, we specialise purely in Forest School and are pleased to be the first training provider in the UK to provide accredited training specifically designed for the Continued Professional Development (CPD) of Forest School practitioners.

## Advanced Forest School - Tool Use (level 3)

### Course Delivery

The training is a balance between deepening theory and understanding and developing practical skills and techniques. Over half the time is spent outdoors, (usually) within a woodland setting. This course is described as 30 hour of learning time (14 guided and 16 self guided) and is delivered over 2 days.

### Entry Criteria

- Candidates must be 21 years old
- Candidates must have undertaken Level 3 or Level 2 Forest School training previously



### Course Content

The training aims to develop participants own practical skills as well as support them to apply these specifically within a Forest School context. Over the 2 days we will:

- Refresh & consolidate tool use skills from initial Forest School training and develop practitioners understanding, skills and confidence using hand tools.
- Increase knowledge and understanding about tool function, process, range and maintenance.
- Introduce new tools and techniques, including; hole making tools, knife techniques and knife sharpening,

using wedges, safe bracing & clamping of work, finishing & decorative techniques.

- Develop understanding of wood as a craft material to work with.
- Introduce the legalities around using tools and harvesting materials at Forest School.
- Consider how to effectively support tool users during Forest School, including trouble shooting.
- Provide a framework to support progression in learners' tool skills at Forest School.
- Consider the making process of craft items and how to adapt this to suit the learner's stage of development and interest.
- Provide a multitude of ideas of items to make using natural materials and begin the making process on a number of these.

### **Assessment**

By its very nature, tool work is a practical subject. Students will be assessed mainly through practical demonstration and the production of finished craft items (which can be started during the training and can be taken away to finish). Students will also be required to apply their learning within their Forest School practice by using tools with individuals and planning for their progression. Evidence will be collected through a small written workbook that is submitted after the training days (deadline will be set on the course).

### **Timescales of accreditation**

1. 2 day intensive training course – 9am - 5pm each day
2. Within 3 months - Candidates continue to make and complete 4 craft items (started during training course)
3. Within 3 months – Candidates plan for tool use progression (for minimum of 3 learners) and support learners within their existing Forest School programme/s
4. Within 3 months – Candidates complete a short workbook of written & photographic evidence and submit to gain accreditation.

### **What can I do to prepare for the training?**

- Kit – Ensure you have appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear for working outside in all weathers.
- Background knowledge & Skills – Refresh your tool use practice that was covered during your Forest School level 3 or 2 training.

### **Sources of Further Information**

[www.forestschooltraining.co.uk](http://www.forestschooltraining.co.uk) – Forest School Training Company

### **Support & Questions**

Please contact;

#### **Louise Ambrose**

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