



LEVEL 2 AWARD FOR FOREST SCHOOL ASSISTANTS
BLENDED MODULAR COURSE

DETAILS FOR NORFOLK COURSE – STARTING IN JANUARY 2024

Please ensure you have read our ‘Level 2 Course Information Guide’ (available on our website) in conjunction with this flier. The Information Guide contains full details about the content, commitment and assessment methods of our level 2 Forest School training course.

COURSE DATES + LOCATIONS:

This blended course consists of a mixture of face to face practical sessions as well as online elements covering some of the theory.

Face to Face Sessions – 4 x half day sessions on alternate Saturday mornings 9am-1pm and 1 x all day (9-5) Saturday (final session). Taking place in the Wild by Nature Forest School site in Holt Country Park.

Online Sessions – 6 x 90 minute webinar-style lectures via zoom. All Wednesday evenings (apart from one Tuesday!) 7.30-9pm mostly on alternate weeks to the face to face sessions. Plus one reflective tutorial nearer to the hand in date.



Course Element	Date	Hours	Themes
Webinar 1	Wednesday 10 th January 2024	1.5	Welcome, Course Intro, Intro to ‘Forest School’
Session 1	Saturday 13 th January 2024	4	Forming a community, Fire lighting, Intro to Knots,
Webinar 2	Wednesday 17 th January 2024	1.5	Risk
Session 2	Saturday 27 th January 2024	4	Species ID, Risk Assessment, Ropes
Webinar 3	Wednesday 31 st January 2024	1.5	Holistic Development
Session 3	Saturday 10 th February 2024	4	Knife use, Tarp & line shelters
Webinar 4	Tuesday 13 th February 2024	1.5	Play
Break for Half Term			
Session 4	Saturday 2 nd March 2024	4	Saw use, play in practice
Webinar 5	Wednesday 6 th March 2024	1.5	Woodland Ecology
Webinar 6	Wednesday 13 th March 2024	1.5	Self Esteem & Working with Needs
Session 5 & 6	Saturday 16 th March 2024	8	Species ID, Environmental Impact, Practical assessments, Next Steps
Assisting with a FS programme	April - July 2024	3 sessions	Supporting a Forest School programme with a level 3 leader
Online Tutorial	Wednesday 10 th July 2024	1.5	Reflections on FS practice
Final Hand-in	31 st July 2024	n/a	n/a



VENUE – HOLT COUNTRY PARK

Wild by Nature Forest School have kindly offered to host these training days. Their site is located within Holt Country Park. We will be aiming to spend the whole of these morning sessions outside (unless the weather conditions are deemed dangerous).

The address is: Wild by Nature Forest School Site
Holt Country Park
Edgefield Hill
Holt
NR25 6SP

ONLINE WEBINARS

The majority of the theory sessions will be delivered live via zoom. These will be webinar style lectures with space for reflection and questions. Please ensure you have access to a device which is able to connect to zoom calls for these course components. We would recommend that you attend these live where possible, however we will also be recording them.

SUPPORTING A FOREST SCHOOL PROGRAMME

To complete the level 2 qualification students are required to support a minimum of 3 consecutive sessions within a Forest School programme being run by a level 3 Forest School Leader. It is usual that students will arrange this themselves, however if participants do not yet have contact with a Forest School, our tutors may be able to signpost students to existing Forest Schools if needed.

STUDENT SUPPORT FOR SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING

Approximately half the qualification time is expected to be self directed learning by the student. We aim to support our students during this self guided time as well as the contact time with tutors and have a variety of methods available for this:

- **STUDENT WEB PAGES** – All students will be issued with a username and password in order to access the student sections of our FSTC website. Within these web pages are reading list and links on various topics, handouts and resources, as well as electronic copies of all resources used during the training course.
- **ONLINE TUTORIAL** – After the training modules, we encourage students to reconnect for an online tutorial session. This sessions offer the opportunity for reflection on the FS sessions you have supported as well as tutor support on any remaining course elements.
- **VIDEOS** – Lou (FSTC Tutor) has her own YouTube channel – [Forest School Lou](#) which has a range of videos on different Forest School topics



STUDENTS WISHING TO 'TOP UP'

The modular format of our training is designed to be flexible to meet learners needs, therefore it is possible for students who have recently gained a level 2 Forest School Qualification to 'top-up' their training to level 3. This means that in the future you can use the level 2 qualification towards a level 3 course should you wish to continue your Forest School training.

VALUE ADDED FEATURES OF OUR TRAINING COURSE

We care about the quality of our training and the Forest School practice which ultimately results from it. There is a wide range of Forest School training available in the UK and we want to ensure that our course is right for the students that choose to undertake their training with us. Our training course aims to support aspirant Forest School Assistants every step of the way. Some of the additional benefits that our training offers are:

- **MODULAR FORMAT** – making learning more manageable, working through the seasons
- **NATIONALLY RECOGNISED QUALIFICATION** – we use the most up to date Forest School qualification units. These are the national standard and on the QCF
- **OUTDOOR LIVING EXPERIENCES** – through outdoor practical sessions
- **ONLINE SERVICES** – Student password protected web pages & resources
- **ONGOING SUPPORT** – Tutorial support to reconnect
- **FREE 1 YEAR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP** to the Forest School Association

YOUR TRAINER – LOUISE

This course will be led by Louise, FSTC lead tutor. Louise has been a Forest School trainer for the last 15 years and worked with a range of ages at Forest School from Early Years to adults.



HOW TO REGISTER ON THE COURSE

Please complete and submit the online registration form

<https://forms.gle/5RGS6Qi2jbZWNwXN8> . Please ensure you have read our Terms and Conditions before applying, found on our website www.forestschoolltraining.co.uk

PREPARING FOR THE COURSE

The face to face sessions of the training will take place outside, in all weathers. Please ensure you have appropriate outdoor clothing, including full waterproofs and footwear. As we will be going through the colder months of the year you may want to invest in some thermal base layers. We have a video about the layer system of dressing for the outdoors - <https://youtu.be/nRRFCdp9gCA>

We would also recommend that you begin learning about the ethos and principles of Forest School. You can do this by:

- Reading about the Forest School philosophy – www.forestschoollassociation.org
- Visiting existing Forest School Programmes & talking to Forest School leaders - www.fsanorfolk.wixsite.com/fsan
- Watch some of our videos explaining its ethos –
 - What is Forest School - <https://youtu.be/ilsipn-rE2Q>
 - Forest School in a nutshell - <https://youtu.be/pF3xNwyjvtA>
 - Participate in an online experiential series of videos as an introduction to Forest School – https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM_3b0QSEkWm6BRf_BWDDdSIRr6Khd9yA



CONTACT LOUISE

Please **contact Louise** directly if you would like to discuss anything about this course – birchwoodlearning@gmail.com

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO THE WOODS SOON!