



LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE FOR FOREST SCHOOL LEADERS
FSTC 12 DAY MODULAR COURSE

DETAILS FOR NORFOLK COURSE – STARTING IN MARCH 2024

Please ensure you have read our 'Level 3 Course Information Guide' (available on our website) in conjunction with this flier. The Information Guide contains full details about the course content, commitment and assessment methods of our level 3 Forest School training.

COURSE DATES + LOCATIONS:

Course Component	Date	Number of Days	Location
Immersion	Wednesday 20 th March 2024	1	Pridgeons Belt, West Acre Estate
Module 1	Thursday 21 st & Friday 22 nd March 2024	2	Pridgeons Belt, West Acre Estate
Module 2	Thursday 25 th & Friday 26 th April 2024	2	Pridgeons Belt, West Acre Estate
Module 3	Wednesday 5 th , Thursday 6 th & Friday 7 th June 2024	3	Pridgeons Belt, West Acre Estate
Module 4	Thursday 4 th & Friday 5 th July 2024	2	Pridgeons Belt, West Acre Estate
Module 5 (Camp out)	Thursday 19 th & Friday 20 th September 2024	2	Pridgeons Belt, West Acre Estate
Live Lectures x 7	7.30-9pm on Thursdays - 28 th March, 11 th April, 9 th May, 23 rd May, 13 th June, 27 th June, 18 th July 2024	1.5 hours each	Online (recordings will be available)
Delivery Assessment	TBA during training – estimated to be late Autumn Term 2024	0.5	At your Forest School site
Online Tutorials x3	8-9pm on Thursdays - 17 th October 2024, 28 th November 2024 & 16 th January 2025	1 hour each	Online
Final Hand-in	31 st January 2025	n/a	n/a

TIMINGS:

- Immersion & Modules 1-4 = 9am to 5pm
- Module 5 Woodland Camp Out = The activities during the daytime are course requirements but the overnight stay in the woods is optional (although we hope that by this point in the course you would like to!)
- Delivery Assessments = To be arranged with an assessor, once you have arranged your introductory Forest School programme.
- Live Lectures (Online) = 7.30-9pm, Online Tutorials = 8-9pm



VENUE – PRIDGEON'S BELT, WEST ACRE

We are fortunate enough to be able to use a beautiful piece of woodland within the West Acre Estate thanks to the Birkbeck family and The Outrageous Nature Community Interest Company.

Please be aware that this venue is fairly 'rustic' and does not have any indoor space. **We will be outside all day every day!** There is no mains water on site, however there is a compost loo available and we will have jerry cans of drinking water available. In wet weather we will rig shelters but it is essential you have appropriate and adequate outdoor clothing and footwear to be comfortable.

The woodland is a couple of minutes drive from the A47, roughly halfway between Swaffham and King's Lynn.

The address is: Pridgeon's Belt
West Acre Estate
Just off Gayton Road (B1153)
PE32 1PS (Please do not use this postcode in satnav to find the woodland – it will take you to a farm!) we will send detailed directions to find us in the pre-course information.



STUDENTS WISHING TO 'TOP UP'

The modular format of 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. Ideally the level 2 qualification will have been gained within 2 years before the start date of the level 3 course and was undertaken with FSTC.

If you did your level 2 with a different training provider and wish to 'top-up' please contact us before booking to discuss options. All students are encouraged to attend the immersion day at the start of the course, but then people who have done level 2 can omit Modules 1 & 2.

PRICES

FSTC prices are fully inclusive of all course costs, including; qualification registration & certification, marking & moderation, administration, course support resources & access to equipment, student website access, and tutorial support. There are no 'hidden extras' and we do not charge our students for late submission of work (unless the submission date has gone beyond what is required by the moderators).



	Number of Training Days attended	Cost of course*
Level 3 Full Course	12	£1,400
Level 2 to 3 'Top Up'	8	£950

**Delivery Assessments – at level 3, students are assessed for leadership skills by an assessor travelling to the student's FS site & observing practice. We also use this visit as an opportunity to provide tailored advice and support to students about their Forest School site & situation to help them action plan for future development. In order to provide this service, an additional charge of £75 plus 45p mile is levied for students working outside a 30-mile radius of the training venue.*

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 Leaders 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
- **DELIVERY ASSESSMENTS** – we visit you at your Forest School to give you tailored feedback and support relevant to your situation for your future development
- **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 the immersion day and woodland camp out
- **24/7 ONLINE SERVICES** – Student password protected web pages & resources
- **ONGOING SUPPORT** – Online Group Tutorials & woodland practical opportunities
- **FREE 1 YEAR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP** to the Forest School Association



YOUR LEAD TRAINER - LOUISE

This course will be led by Louise, along with assistant trainers Mell, Steph and Emma to facilitate the course. All tutors are experienced outdoor practitioners and Forest School Leaders.

Louise wants to live in a world where everyone is connected to nature; where people of all ages have muddy knees, twigs in their hair, woodsmoke infused clothes, a sparkle in their eyes and warmth in their heart.

She's worked as a Forest School practitioner with groups of all ages, coordinated Forest School development for Norfolk County Council and been a Forest School trainer for the last 15 years.

More recently she is enjoying being a mama and having a small human attached to her 24/7, which has enabled her to confront her luddite ways and create a YouTube channel 'Forest School Lou' to share all things Forest School-sy.

CONTACT LOUISE

Please **contact Louise** directly if you would like to discuss anything about this course – birchwoodlearning@gmail.com We also have a FAQ video about our training courses online here - <https://youtu.be/HMfytEGzBos?si=5wg53up20STACZnN>



FIRST AID TRAINING

Level 3 students will need to hold an appropriate Outdoor First Aid certificate (we recommend doing one that is at least 16 hour and that covers the age groups you intend on working with) before they run their introductory Forest School Programme (after module 5).

In Norfolk, there are regular opportunities to undertake a 16 hour First Aid for Forest School course hosted by Rooted in Nature. Please check their website for forthcoming courses -

www.rootedinnature.org.uk/first-aid-safety-courses/

RUNNING YOUR FOREST SCHOOL PROGRAMME

The level 3 course is a practitioners accreditation, it is designed to equip you with everything you need to begin running your own Forest School programmes.

Part of the course is to set up and run an introductory Forest School programme of at least 6 sessions with the same group of learners. This is due to take place after the training modules and one of our tutors will make a visit to observe one of your sessions.

You will need to make arrangements during the course to be able to undertake this, including:

- Finding an appropriate site
- Finding an appropriate group (can be of any age)
- Communicating with stakeholders
- Obtaining appropriate permissions & insurances
- Undertaking appropriate safety checks
- Planning, observation & evaluation processes
- Undertaking appropriate environmental surveys

Further information and support about how to do this is part of the training course.



HOW TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

Please complete and submit the online registration form. Please ensure you have read our Terms and Conditions before applying, found on our website www.forestschoolltraining.co.uk

Before making a booking we **strongly recommend** that you ensure that Forest School is the most appropriate type of Outdoor Learning for your situation (there are numerous different outdoor approaches). You can do this by:

- Reading about the Forest School philosophy – www.forestschoollassociation.org
- Read about the wider context of outdoor learning - www.outdoor-learning.org/Good-Practice/Research-Publications/About-Outdoor-Learning
- Visiting existing Forest School Programmes & talking to Forest School leaders - www.fsanorfolk.wixsite.com/fsan
- Watch a video explaining its ethos – www.youtube.com/c/ForestSchoolLou
- Undertake a level 1 Introductory course before committing to the level 3 course – check availability of our courses – www.forestschoolltraining.co.uk
- Or participate in an online experiential series of videos as an introduction to Forest School – www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM_3b0QSEkWm6BRf_BWDDdSIRr6Khd9yA

WE HOPE TO WELCOME YOU TO THE WOODS SOON!