

**Forest School Policy and Procedure for disposal of food, litter and wastewater**

Date	Review Date	Coordinator	Nominated Governor
October 2020	October 2021	Ian Carson	Catherine Khan

It is inevitable if we are using open fires, preparing and cooking food as part of our forest school activities, that a certain amount of waste will be produced.

In order to minimise our own impact and to embed good practice the following procedures have been adopted.

Bin bags should be carried on all forest school activities. If there are recyclable materials amongst the waste, it is best to sort them at this stage so they can be placed in the relevant recycling bin. The school currently has bins for paper / card and mixed waste recyclables, this includes glass, tins and plastics.

Concentrate any activity which is likely to generate waste into one area. Putting a cheap (Pound Shop) tarp on the floor, can help to avoid waste becoming lost in the leaf litter.

Take all litter and food waste away from site to dispose of when arriving back at **the Forest School classroom.**

On a site such as ours, that is within the school grounds, this is not difficult. On sites where it involves carrying things over a greater distance it can help to focus the mind and the question can be asked - is it really necessary?

Water is likely to be used for food preparation and for cleaning. Water that has simply been used for rinsing uncooked fruit or vegetables can effectively be disposed of on site, with minimal environmental impact. Choose an area away from the working area and away from any open water courses. There is no open water on our site.

Once it becomes, what is often described as, grey water through contamination with soaps and food stuffs it needs to be disposed of more carefully.

Where possible wipe and rinse rather than washing fully on site and then wash fully once you have returned to school.

Where it is necessary to reuse utensils then on a site such as ours it should be possible to return the grey water to the school building and dispose of it in the normal way.

As is outlined below good management of a fire should help to reduce the amount of potential waste that is used. Using a permanent site for the campfire can help to minimise the amount of impact. This can be reduced further by the **provision of a hard surface or** by using a fire pan **or other container.**

**Oakfield Community Primary School**

**Summary of procedures for the Oakfield school forest area:**

- Carry bin bags on each visit.
- Sort on site and recycle where possible.
- Remove all waste generated by the group along with any other litter found whilst on site. Leave the site better than you found it
- Minimise water use.
- Transport grey water off site and dispose of in the normal way.
- Clear cold ashes and small coals for disposal on the compost heap.
- Stack any unused or part burnt firewood for use by future learners.

<b>Headteacher:</b>	Catherine Khan <i>Catherine Khan</i>	<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Chair of Governing Body:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	