

What benefits will my child get from participating in Wild tribe?

Wild Tribe supports the holistic development of the child:

- Health and fitness – being active in an outdoor, natural environment.
- Increased emotional wellbeing – there is a wealth of research supporting this.
- Social development – communicating and negotiating with peers and adults to solve problems and share experiences.
- Skills development – developing fine and gross motor skills and coordination for real purposes.
- Gaining knowledge and understanding – multi-sensory, real life learning.
- Personalised learning – careful observation through small group work allows adults to tailor support to pupils' own needs, interests and stage of development.

Health and Safety

The health and safety of all the pupils is central to everything done within a Wild Tribe Program. Wild Tribe practitioners are fully trained in Wild Tribe skills and risk assessment. Two supporting adults will also attend every session. All practitioners and supporting adults hold first aid qualifications. The Wild Tribe Program has; a Health and Safety policy, a seasonally and daily risk assessed site, risk assessments for activities and first aid resources. Some of the activities the pupils may participate in are 'higher-risk activities' (such as campfire cooking or tool use), however, these activities are not available to children until certain behaviours and boundaries are established. Pupils are encouraged and supported in recognising and managing risk for themselves, through real life situations and experiences.

What does my child need to bring?

Your child just needs to bring themselves! However, what they wear is important. Children must wear long trousers/leggings and long-sleeved tops, have a waterproof jacket and wellies or old trainers and a sun hat. Please be aware, these clothes are likely to get dirty!

You will be informed when your child will be doing Wild Tribe sessions.

What is Wild Tribe?

What will the children be doing?

Wild Tribe A Guide for Parents

**Look after yourself
Look after each other
Look after the environment**



**"This is the best kind of classroom,
It's a journey through time and space,
From the smallest seed to the largest tree,
This is a Forest and a learning place.**

**This is the best kind of classroom,
Where the seasons don't happen in books.
Where the learning is watching and thinking and talking
And everyone notices, everyone looks."**

From 'The best Kind of Classroom' by Ian MacMillan

Wild Tribe has been based on the principles of Forest Schools, which has developed from the Scandinavian education system and is about young people building self-esteem and independence through exploring and experiencing the natural world. Forest Schools is a long-term program delivered by trained practitioners within a natural environment (not necessarily a forest!). The main difference between Forest Schools and Wild Tribe is that Wild Tribe has been developed by teachers and practitioners working alongside each other to ensure that units of exploration meet the needs of all learners not just the Early Years and meets the requirements of the new National Curriculum, covering a range of curriculum areas. Each Wild Tribe unit of exploration is tailored to meet the needs of individuals within each group and is continuously developed as the children grow in confidence, skills and understanding as a result of their exploration.

The ethos of Forest Schools, allows learners the time and space to develop skills, interests and understanding through practical, hands-on experiences. It allows practitioners to step back and observe pupils in order to encourage and inspire individuals to achieve through careful support and facilitation. Wild Tribe has been developed based on these principles of Forest Schools but with our own natural Cornish twist!

Where will pupils be going?

Wild Tribe will be based within short walking distance of the school site. The sites have some natural features (we may have to import some natural materials such as sticks, logs, leaves and conkers etc). All the sites are safe, thoroughly risk-assessed and managed by trained practitioners.

The Wild Tribe routine varies depending on the site, however it may include:

- *Natural crafts – making necklaces from Elder sticks, creating collages from natural objects, weaving using wool and wood stick frames etc
- *Mud/clay sculptures.
- *Shelter building and knot tying
- *Using tools for a purpose – such as peeling bark from sticks with potato peelers, whittling the end of a stick to make a marsh mallow roasting fork, cutting and sawing branches to consistent lengths, drilling holes in wood to attach string etc.
- *Fire building and cooking on a campfire.
- *Activities linked to literacy, maths, science, art or topic.

Sessions are planned around the individual's and group's needs and built upon each week. All Wild Tribe Practitioners are qualified through nationally recognized and accredited training, therefore ensuring that Wild Tribe is a high-quality learning experience. The first sessions will concentrate on safety and establishing boundaries and routines. As pupils develop in confidence and familiarity with the environment, the sessions focus on the development and consolidation of skills and understanding and link further with the National Curriculum.

Wild Tribe Practitioner – Mrs Clare Hayes