

Level 3 Certificate in Forest School Programme Leadership

NOCN Level 3 Certificate in Forest School Programme Leadership (QCF)

Rosliston Forestry Centre, Burton Road, Rosliston, Derbyshire, DE12 8JX

Wednesdays - 12th October, 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th November,

7th December 2016, 11th & 18th January 2017.

09:30-16:15

To follow: 16 hour Outdoor and paediatric first aid qualification (dates to be confirmed)

Cost £895 (no VAT)

Training details:

In order to achieve the Level 3 qualification, the following must be completed:

- Attend the nine day training course
- Complete a series of ongoing practical assessments during the training course
- Plan, deliver and review a six session Forest School programme.
- Complete and submit a learning portfolio
- Complete a 16 hour Outdoor and Paediatric First Aid Qualification
- Provide an up to date DBS certificate.

The training course:

We run our course for one day per week over nine weeks. This allows a period of learner consolidation of activities followed in the time between each week. Although this weekly work might sound challenging with other pressures, it will be worth it after the training is complete. We provide support by email and telephone, if required.

There is a reasonable amount of physical effort required, from moving materials, through to learning new skills with tools. In addition, the theory parts of the training will also be challenging due to the level of learning involved.

The course consists of 5 Units, with a total of 126 Guided Learning Hours. This means that a significant amount of self-guided learning will be required outside of the training course. All units need to be achieved, with a summary of the course content below:

Delivery of a Forest School Programme

- Deliver a six session Forest School programme.
- Assess the impacts on individuals and make recommendations for progression.
- Evaluate each session and a final overall evaluation.



Forest School Programmes and the Woodland Environment

- Understand different types of British woodland structure.
- Be able to identify relevant key flora and fauna, understanding the importance of this.
- Understand sustainable woodland management and how learners may be involved in this.

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Learning and Development at a Forest School Programme

- Understand learning theories and their relevance and application in Forest School.
- Understand holistic development and how it can be facilitated through Forest School.
- Links between Forest School and self-esteem, emotional intelligence, resilience, confidence and independence.
- The importance of risk taking and play in Forest School.
- Understand the impact of behaviour in Forest School and how appropriate behaviour can be encouraged.
- Undertake a personal reflection of Forest School training.

Planning a Forest School Programme

- Understand the development of Forest School.
- Assess the ecological impacts of Forest School and produce a three year management plan for your Forest School area.
- Produce a Forest School handbook, risk assessments and risk benefit assessments for your setting.
- Plan a suitable six session Forest School programme.
- Produce a communication strategy for your setting.



Practical Skills for a Forest School Programme

- Choose the right personal protective equipment for different Forest School activities.
- Be able to check, clean, maintain, use and explain use of hand tools such as saws, loppers and knives to participants.
- Teach knot tying and use.
- Make some items from woodland materials which could be tools or musical instruments and be able to teach this to participants.
- Make shelters from tarpaulins and natural materials.

We don't deliver these as separate units, mixing them up to give bite sized pieces of differing subjects to keep the training interesting throughout the course. Each week will consist of some theoretical and practical learning. We strongly recommend that this is written up (even if it is rough work) or practiced during the week. This will allow understanding to develop, skills to improve and questions to be asked the following week!

Practical assessments:

We will assess practical activities as they are completed, to ensure that competence is at the correct standard. There will be opportunities to practice and share skills within the training days, receiving feedback as necessary to ensure learning is at the correct level and standards are achieved.

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Forest School programme:



The training will provide the tools and skill to plan, deliver and review six hour long Forest School sessions to your chosen group. This will include identifying and ensuring a Forest School site is fit for purpose, considering impacts, providing information for clients along with session plans, assessment, risk management and evaluation documents.

Evidence for these will be submitted as part of the portfolio. We will also carry out an observation visit of one of your sessions. To support you in preparing for the programme, you will plan, deliver and review a Forest School session with our support within the nine day training course.

We also recommend that you visit a Forest School practitioner at a session, as this helps to develop understanding and other approaches.

Learning portfolio:

Part of the assessment will be via a portfolio. We will provide a Word template for completion. This may be submitted electronically, on paper, or if preferred, by audio or video recording. Please ensure that we are aware in advance of the submission method chosen, so that we are able to assess it effectively and link the submitted work to the assessment criteria.

Your completed portfolio will contain all the evidence required to assess submitted work and will include practical assessments, a personal log book of experience and Forest School session evidence.

It is recommended that the relevant sections of the portfolio are completed as the training course progresses, leaving the Forest School session information until afterwards. This allows reference notes to be made when planning sessions and also saves work later as the portfolio doesn't need to be completed as a single activity.

The portfolio should be submitted within six months of attending the training course, although it may be submitted earlier if complete.

Assessment will normally take place within two weeks of submitted work being received, which is then followed by Internal Verification and External Verification, to ensure that quality and standards are at the correct level.



First aid qualification:

Completion of a 16 hour outdoor and paediatric first aid qualification will take place after the training course, and is included within the course fee. It takes place over two consecutive days and will provide the skills and knowledge to deal with incidents in circumstances that many other courses don't cover.

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This qualification will need to be renewed every three years to ensure that learning is kept up to date.

Recognition of Prior Learning:

If any aspect of this training has been completed through a previous qualification, then this evidence may be submitted as part of the portfolio, via a certificate, testimony or other assessment. Any Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) evidence should not be more than three years old, with sufficient detail submitted to allow an assessment of validity to be made. Please discuss any prior learning that you consider may be valid for this qualification before submission.

Assessment and certification:

Assessment will normally take place within ten working days of submitted work being received, which is then followed by Internal Verification and External Verification, to ensure that quality and standards are at the correct level.

Once these processes have been completed, the NOCN will issue certificates within ten working days.

Other information

The course will be held at Rosliston Forestry Centre, where the majority will be delivered outside, although we will have access to a room to support the practical sessions.

Although this might seem to be a lot of information, the course is delivered in a hands-on manner, with an emphasis on experiential learning, so many of the activities are completed as we work through the activities.

Questions and booking?

If you have any questions regarding the course, then please do ask. We want to ensure that this is the correct course for you. If you would like to book a place then please email or call Colin Manning at col@creativeoutdoorlearning.co.uk or 0789 979 3967 to request a booking form.

