

Constructive Feedback

Unit 1 – Forest School Programs and the Woodland Environment

Good and in depth start to the portfolio – your explanation of the horizontal and vertical woodlands was very good. I also liked the research that you have clearly done on your site – it is important to understand what is within the site so that you can mitigate risk to an acceptable level for your customers.

Unit 2 – Practical Skills for a Forest School Programme

Another good understanding of the practical aspects of Forest Schools ethos. You have dug right down into the detail of the subject which is great to see – particularly with Lymes disease! I also like the way that you have dissected the detail into what makes a good practical Forest Schooler. Your knowledge of fire shows that you understand the science behind the practical – you now need to put this into practice to develop your practical skills – overall a great unit ☺

Unit 3 – Learning and Development at a Forest School Programme

Another well presented Unit showing a full understanding of the science behind Forest Schools. I like the way that you have linked how you work on your site and the youth work that you've been involved in with the ethos and holistic development part of Forest Schools. You are correct in that there are a lot of people out there who do not understand the full meaning of Forest Schools however we, as practitioners, must always do our best to enlighten them in order to spread the word and develop a better understanding of the ethos.

Constructive Feedback

Continued...

Unit 4 – Planning a Forest School Programme

A good choice of research titles and your explanations of them fit with what is currently thought about for them. You are right in what you say as to regards the ethos of Forest Schools – it is difficult to have a pure form of the ethos without being impacted either financially or practically.

Your policies and procedures are sound – they have had a lot of thought into them and I can see how this has taken time to produce – a really good effort. You have also produced some really good workable session plans which I think will make for good sessions – try not to over complicate these initial sessions though as you will be watching intently how children react to your activities in order to inform your next steps.

Unit 5 – Delivery of a Forest School Programme

As expected a good finish to the portfolio with some great comments from parents. I've found that the reflective account of my sessions does seem to inform the next sessions and I try and make things as simple as possible in order to facilitate the learning process for our learners. Try to think less is more a little – this may work especially if you are setting up on your own and have to move all equipment by yourself. Good work Colin – a good portfolio overall!

Forest School Level 3 Practical Assessment

Candidate Name: Colin Laws			Location: Hicks Lodge			Date: 31 May 2017		
Tool	Competency			Application			Comments	Pass/Deferred
Tool Talks Element 1.2			2			2	Tool talks good but need a little more polish.	Pass
Tool Maintenance Element 1.3				3	Good and sound knowledge on how to care for tools.			Pass
Loppers Element 1.2			2			2	Good practice throughout assessment – concentrate on giving the tool talks without cards and then practically demonstrate them when using them. Overall a good result	Pass
Bowsaw Element 1.2			2			2		Pass
Billhook Element 1.2			2			2		Pass
Sheath Knife Element 1.2			2			2		Pass
Fire lighting Element 2.1			2			2		Good management of cooking areas and fires throughout assessment. Concentration needed to produce a good fire lay but got there in the end. Practice your skills whenever you can to improve them.
Cooking Element 2.2				3		3	Pass	
Fire Extinguish Element 2.3				3		3	Pass	
Kelly Kettle/Boiling Water Element 2.3			2			2	Pass	
Knots Element 1.4			2			2	A variety of knots and lashings used throughout assessment – no problems at all.	Pass
Shelters Element 1.5			2		High shelter used as part of a group – fit for purpose			Pass
Other Observations	Overall you know what you are doing in the outdoors – you still need to work on fire lighting and knowing your tool talks. Remember practice makes perfect – good effort Colin ☺							
Assessor:	Dave Churchward	Date:	31 May 2017			Signature:	<i>D Churchward</i>	

Level 3 Practitioner Assessment Record

(Completed by Assessor)

Candidate Name: Colin Laws		Date of Assessment: 1 Jun 2017	
Observer: Dave Churchward		Other Observers present: Nil	
Trainer Comments			
Unit 1 – Establishing and Delivery of Forest Schools			
Process of Managing Risk Element 3.2	Good safety brief prior to session starting – verbal and visual to all client group including stinging nettles, brambles and hawthorn	3	
Relevant Risk Assessments Element 3.3		3	
Forest School Handbook Element 3.1/4.2		3	
Unit 2 – Establishing and Delivery of Forest Schools			
Formative Assessment Element 3.1	Clear planning process shown with a client group of under 12 year olds.	3	
Unit 4 – Learning and Development at Forest Schools			
Theories of Learning Element 1.1	Good range of learning styles catered for – Visual, Audio and Kinaesthetic. Good use of visual props and costumes to really improve the session! Great age ranged activities that were relevant to group – free flow of child led learning witnessed. Children used their own imaginations to improve the session overall All leaders showed confidence in their ability and bonded well with both children and adults that attended the session. Good use of accelerated learning with some of the activities during the session.	3	
Holistic Development Element 2.1/2.2/2.3			
Learning and Development Needs Element 2.2			
Self Esteem and Emotional Intelligence Element 2.5			
Freely Chosen Play Element 2.8			
The Role of the Forest School Leader Element 4.1			
Other Observations	Great theme to session – Robin Hood – some great costumes used throughout which really went down well!		
Assessor:	Dave Churchward	Date:	1 Jun 2017
		Signature:	<i>D Churchward</i>