

PROSPECTUS 2026



1 WHAT IS FOREST SCHOOL, BUSHCRAFT, CONSERVATION

At Outdoor Explorers, we invite young people aged 11+ (school age year 7 equivalent) to embark on an exciting adventure filled with forest school principals, bushcraft skills, and the chance to participate in conservation work. Our sessions run term time, on Thursdays at both River Hamble and Hinton Admiral.

Forest School

The foundation of our program lies in the ethos of Forest School, which emphasizes deep respect for young people's innate curiosity and capacity to explore the world around them.

We believe in the right of every young person to explore with curiosity, access nature, and engage with the vibrant reality of the natural world.

Forest School is all about learning through the process, encouraging creativity, resilience, and self-directed learning.

In our woodland environment, young people will experience the magic of the changing seasons, explore a variety of sensory stimuli, and develop a profound connection with nature and its many wonders.



Bushcraft

Bushcraft encompasses primitive skills, including fire lighting, shelter building, foraging, tool use, and navigation. It empowers young people to thrive in the wilderness using natural resources.

Benefits for young people

- **Self-Reliance:** Learning practical skills builds confidence in handling challenges.
- **Nature Connection:** Immersing in the wild fosters respect and stewardship for the environment.
- **Problem-Solving:** Bushcraft encourages critical thinking and creativity.
- **Resilience:** young people adapt to different situations and build resilience.
- **Environmental Awareness:** Understanding sustainability and resource conservation.

Safety and Supervision

Safety is paramount. Our experienced leaders supervise all activities and teach responsible tool use and environmental respect.

Bushcraft at Outdoor Explorers equips young people with valuable survival skills, nurtures a love for nature, and prepares them to be responsible custodians of the environment.



A close-up photograph of a tree trunk, heavily covered in vibrant green moss. The tree trunk is on the right side of the frame, with its bark showing some texture and vertical lines. The moss is thick and covers the lower part of the trunk and the roots that spread out towards the left. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a dense forest with many leaves. The lighting is natural, creating a serene and peaceful atmosphere.

"AND INTO THE FOREST I GO, TO LOSE MY
MIND AND FIND MY SOUL." - JOHN MUIR

Conservation Work

Our conservation work encourages young people to actively participate in preserving and protecting the natural world. Through hands-on activities, they learn the importance of conservation and develop a sense of responsibility towards the environment.

Benefits for young people

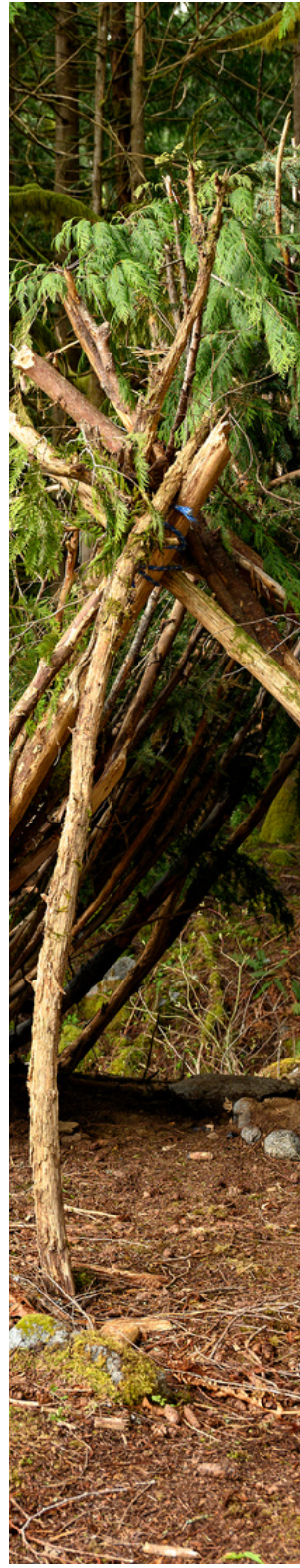
- **Enhanced Environmental Awareness:** They learn the importance of protecting nature and adopting sustainable practices.
- **Personal Growth:** Builds confidence, resilience, and practical skills.
- **Teamwork:** Enhances social skills and fosters a sense of community through collaborative efforts.



3 AN OUTDOOR EXPLORER'S DAY

We start the day at drop off and registration then we gather to check in, share news, and go through the plan for the day's activities. At the end of the day, we will gather in a circle to reflect on our day, plan the next session and celebrate our achievements. These two foundations are the only guarantees of our day. Each session will be unique and will be sure to encompass at least one of our three core pillars: Conservation, Bushcraft and Forest School.

Our dedicated team of session leaders will tailor each experience to ensure a perfect blend of thrilling adventures, valuable learning opportunities, and meaningful connections with nature and fellow explorers. Through this enriching journey, our young people will build lasting memories and valuable life skills that will inspire them to become lifelong lovers of the great outdoors.



4 EXPLORER JOURNALS

To keep parents and carers updated on the young person's adventures, we use Tapestry for recording observations.

Although this tool is primarily for the early years, we have adapted it for our older participants. Through the journals, parents can receive photos and comments about their young person's experiences during their time with us, fostering a closer connection between the young person's outdoor explorations and their family.





"NATURE IS NOT A PLACE TO VISIT. IT IS
HOME." - GARY SNYDER

5 WORLD READY

Our aim at the outdoor learning company is to have young people leave us with a thirst for learning, exploration and investigation.

The self confidence to ask questions and challenge ideas.

The social skills to make friends, work in groups and treat each other with respect.

The problem-solving skills needed to help with different challenges that lay ahead.

The self-regulation to control their own behaviour.

The understanding of their own emotions and those that others may experience and a physical durability for any challenges that lay ahead.



7 FEES

Registration Fee- £50 which secures an offered place at Outdoor Explorers.

Per Session- £35

Fees will be paid in 12 regular monthly instalments.

There will be a 10% discount applied to all siblings after the first child.



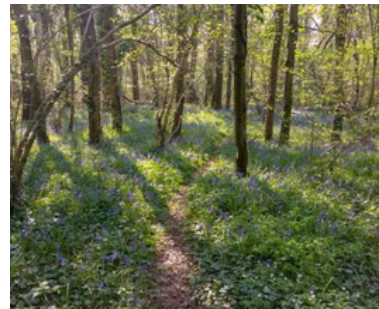
We are an Ofsted registered setting, which means all of our staff undergo enhanced db checks, have robust policies in place to ensure sessions run smoothly and safely and our session leaders are level 3 forest school trained, first aid trained, and our services fully insured.

We are able to accept childcare vouchers and if you are in receipt of universal credit, you may be able to claim back up to 85% of your childcare expenses.

WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS, 10.30-15.00 AT HINTON ADMIRAL ESTATE

Outdoor Explorers is run from the beautiful Hinton Admiral Estate, on the edge of the New Forest. Easy reach from Lymington, New Milton, Bournemouth, Ferndown, Wimborne, Totton, Southampton & Lyndhurst.

We have a large barn at East Close Farm, Hinton with access to the private estate which includes a large lake and 20 acres of diverse woodland to explore. we can also access the new forest national park from our location. offering the perfect environments to conduct our adventures.



THURSDAYS 10:00-14:30 AT CRICKET CAMP, RIVER HAMBLE COUNTRY PARK

Outdoor Explorers is based at the beautiful River Hamble Country Park, set along the banks of the River Hamble and surrounded by stunning Hampshire countryside. Our location is easily accessible from Southampton, Hedge End, Bursledon, Hamble, Netley, Fareham and the surrounding areas.

We are run from within the country park itself, with access to expansive open grassland, riverside trails and natural woodland areas. These varied environments provide the perfect setting for our outdoor learning experiences, exploration and adventure.





9 REGISTRATION

If you're interested in joining Outdoor Explorers, please email oa@theoutdoorlearningcompany.co.uk to get started.

We are committed to fostering an inclusive environment and welcome all home-educated young people to our sessions. We strive to make reasonable adjustments to support each child, but our session leaders reserve the right to decline a space if they believe they cannot adequately meet a child's needs.

We offer one free trial session. If the young person, parents/carers, and session leaders feel the trial was successful, and we have a space available, you will be invited to continue. To secure your place, a non-refundable registration fee of £50 is required, and a 4-week notice period will apply if you choose to leave. Our session practitioners are available for feedback during drop-off or pick-up each week.





"LIFE IS MEANT FOR SPECTACULAR
ADVENTURES. LET YOUR FEET WANDER,
YOUR EYES MARVEL, AND YOUR SOUL
IGNITE."

10 OUR OTHER SERVICES

many of our outdoor Explorers also attend our sessions at embers learning community as they complement each other well. embers is a project based, joy centred learning community for home educating children aged 5-14 years old.

Sessions at embers are a little more structured, predominately indoors and provide opportunities and experiences for children to collaborate on projects.



Here at The Outdoor Learning Company we are lucky enough to run two Forest Pre-Schools for under 5s. Inspired by the Forest School approach to learning, your child will have a unique experience being immersed in nature, using tools and exploring the woodland throughout the seasons.

We also have Outdoor Adventurers Forest School Holiday Clubs in various locations for the over 5s. We can also host a Forest School Birthday Party at our Hinton Preschool venue.

For more information on any of our services please visit www.theoutdoorlearningcompany.co.uk





WWW.THEOUTDOORLEARNINGCOMPANY.CO.UK