



“Springfield is a caring, supportive and innovative school where everyone is recognised and appreciated as an individual. The golden thread running through our vision is the mental health and wellbeing of our school community. By creating a safe, supportive and relational environment for all, we enable our children to be ambitious and to reach their full potential, so that they can take their place in their community and in the wider world.”

Spring Forest Sensory Garden Policy



Spring Forest Sensory Garden is an important part of Forest School and may be used in sessions and extra-curricular activities run at Spring Forest. The aim of this policy is to ensure that everyone participating in activities within the garden do so safely and with minimum risk to their health and safety.

Sensory Garden

There is a specific area set out in Spring Forest for the sensory garden. It consists of:

- A raised bed containing herbs such as lavender, thyme and rosemary
- A raised bed containing fruit such as, strawberries, blackberries and gooseberries
- A wooden tripod for a hammock to swaddle in.
- Plastic flooring beneath the hammock.
- An area beyond the plastic flooring has been split up into sections with different types and colours of stone, rock and slate for children to experience sensory activities.
- A musical wall consisting of a number of brightly coloured tubes of different lengths that make different pitches when beaten with a stick.
- A metal windchime
- A two seater bench

Pupils are not allowed access to this area without permission.

Preparation for the area

It is the role of the Forest School Leader (FSL) to do a risk assessment, identifying any hazards for the Sensory Garden.

Forest School Leader will weed the raised beds and any other areas with Forest School group.

The hammock will be installed on dry days if and when it is needed (SENCO) can liaise with FSL.

It is the responsibility of the Teacher/Staff to take down the hammock when they have finished with it and pass it on to the FSL.

Using the Garden

The garden must have an adult always supervising the area.

Children must never enter the fire circle.

Everything must be put back in the correct place for example, all rocks, slate must be tidied back.

Take down the hammock and pass it to FSL.

Entrance to the Sensory Garden

Entrance to the Sensory Garden can be entered by the gate near to the staffroom external door. The other, by the EYFS shed, walking through the raised beds and passed the den building structure.