

# Forest School charitable scheme

from

NICHOLSONS

in partnership with



THE BERKELEY REAFFORESTATION TRUST



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*As a large city school, our Forest School sessions are highly valued. The improvements encourage children to embark on a journey around the site and better utilise the space.*

*Planting is well thought out and new features (the bug hotel and hammock stands) are already proving really popular.*

*The all-weather canopy will provide crucial shelter on the exposed site until our lovely trees mature.*

*Nicholsons have provided a much needed revamp of our Forest School site, enriching the nurturing curiosity amongst the children whilst enhancing the space.*

Belinda Collins

EYFS HLTA, Larkrise Primary School

Kidlington, Oxfordshire

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# Welcome to the Nicholsons Forest School Scheme

At Nicholsons, our impact upon the planet is at the forefront of all we do. We undertake work with respect and consideration for the present and future health of the environment. In line with our commitment to sustainability, we are deeply passionate about supporting future generations - our next climate champions, in fostering a love of nature. We have seen first hand how childhood access to the natural world can foster a lifelong appreciation for the environment and, in turn, become the next generation to protect it. One fantastic way to do this is through Forest School.



Westfield School, Buckinghamshire



## What is Forest School?

Originating in Scandinavia, where nature and movement are seen as crucial to children's learning and development, Forest Schools provide young children with an education outside of the traditional classroom setting. Since the first UK Forest School was established in 1995, this style of learning has continued to grow in popularity and is now used nationwide.

Focused on creating holistic benefits for learners, Forest School allows children to experience real-world problems and apply learned experiences, skills and solutions to new situations and environments. This form of outdoor education allows for risks and challenges to be explored through hands-on learning and play, including the taking of social and emotional risks.

Forest School is governed by six core principles:

- To be a long-term process of regular sessions
- To take place in woodland or the natural environment
- To use a range of learner-centred processes
- To promote holistic development
- To provide opportunities to take supported risks
- To be run by qualified Forest School practitioners

The Forest School Association is the professional body and UK wide voice for Forest School.

Read more: [forestschoollassociation.org](https://forestschoollassociation.org)



# About

## Nicholsons

Leading in environmental stewardship, Nicholsons provides unparalleled expertise in landscape design, forestry, woodland and tree management and ecosystem services. As part of our commitment to upholding our environmental aims, supporting our community and fostering a culture of continuous learning, we are dedicated to making a positive impact and driving positive change. Delivering our Forest School Scheme in partnership with The Berkeley Reafforestation Trust is one way we strive to have a positive social and environmental impact.

Our highly skilled teams deliver a comprehensive service with exceptional quality and continuity, ensuring that every project is seamlessly integrated.

With family values at our core, we are dedicated to excellence and sustainability, prioritising our clients' needs and the health of our planet.

Read more: [nicholsonsgb.com](http://nicholsonsgb.com)

## The Berkeley Reafforestation Trust

The Berkeley Reafforestation Trust (BRT) is a charity dedicated to the protection and planting of trees and to wider environmental education both in the UK and overseas.

Founded in 1987, the Trust has through the years partnered over 20 programmes in ten countries – primarily in the Indian subcontinent and sub Saharan Africa. Increasingly their focus today is towards projects in the UK, alongside the ongoing programme in the Himalayas. They support The Great British Elm Experiment and other initiatives in the endeavour to find a future for these trees that used to define so much of the British countryside.

The Trust's work in the UK is, in particular, directed towards environmental education: to fostering children's understanding, appreciation and experience of the natural world through the medium of Forest School. Furthermore the programme offers significant and well established benefits to participating children in terms of their overall wellbeing, both physical and psychological.

As a small volunteer charity, they have close and ongoing working relationships with their partner organisations.

Read more: [thebrt.org](http://thebrt.org)

Registered Charity Number 297982

## The Scheme

The scheme offers state maintained primary education schools the opportunity to receive the design and/or development and installation of a forest school space within their school grounds. This is performed on a charitable basis working collaboratively with the school team to help create a beneficial learning environment that best meets their school's needs.



# How to apply

To help us understand your school and what will best serve your school community, please complete the following questions in as much detail as possible. Please return your completed application to [gardenmaintenance@nicholsonsgb.com](mailto:gardenmaintenance@nicholsonsgb.com). You may also send additional supporting materials such as photographs of the space available. Should you need further support, or wish to discuss the application process further, please do not hesitate to contact us by email or on 01869 340 342 - Option 2.

Main contact:

School name:

School address:

Main contact  
email address:

Telephone  
number:

Total pupil  
population:

% eligible for  
pupil premium:

We are a local  
authority school

We do not currently have  
access to a forest school site

We have access to a forest  
school site that is in need of  
development

We have limited  
access to green  
spaces

We have a qualified Forest  
School Practitioner (FSP)  
employed at our school

We have a member(s) of  
staff who can undertake FSP  
training

We can recruit for a  
qualified FSP

Please tell us about your school, its community and values:

Please tell us about any forest school provision in place, how you believe forest school will benefit your school community and what you can put in place to support its ongoing use:

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*Nicholsons completely transformed an area in our grounds which was overgrown and inaccessible to the children. Thanks to Nicholsons creativity and resourcefulness, we now have a beautiful woodland learning area which we use daily for our children's development.*

*Nicholsons staff have, without exception, been a joy to work with. They have been fully engaged with the school outdoor learning vision and always sensitive to health and safety and safeguarding regulations that we have asked them to follow.*

*We feel that they have been true partners in our outdoor learning journey and I have absolutely no hesitation in recommending them to other schools who are lucky enough to have their help.*

Mrs Belcher

Headteacher, St. Francis C.E. Primary School

Oxford

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## Contact us

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Plant  
Healthy



INVESTORS  
IN PEOPLE | Gold