

Our Values and Session Info

Home Ed-Venturers runs weekly forest school groups for home-educated children aged 5-10 yrs old and 10-14 yrs old that embodies three core values: COMMUNITY, NATURE & INTEREST-LED LEARNING. We nurture a collaborative community where every voice is heard and where both teamwork and autonomy are celebrated.

**COMMUNITY** Sharing, participation and friendship. Children will be given opportunities to partake in ‘community-keeping’ tasks, from making shared meals to collecting wood for the fire. With the intention of creating awareness around resource use and a sense of responsibility and contribution. Because it feels good to do nice things for others.

**NATURE** Respect, co-existence and listening. We intend to minimise what we bring into the woods and to be aware of the materials that we do bring in (they will be natural and sustainable where possible), adopting permaculture principles and utilising what the woodlands bounty has to offer. We will listen and learn from nature; working with the seasons and our surroundings.

**INTEREST-LED LEARNING** Independence, curiosity and growth. Children will be free to choose how they spend their time in the woods. There will be an adult-led activity offered each session, where the children can develop and deepen their outdoor learning, as well as a drop-in, child-led activity. The rest will be up to them! We will encourage and support their curious exploration, in turn supporting the growth of their confidence and self-esteem. Children attend without their parents and we are happy to support them with this if they find it difficult.

**FOOD/DRINK** We ask that you provide your child with a packed lunch and drink. We will provide a warm drink over the winter and drinking water at all times. All food provided by us will be vegetarian and all dietary requirements will be catered for.

**A TYPICAL SESSION** is 5 hours, 10:00-15:00. You’ll be greeted in the car park where a register will be taken before we escort your children through the woods, orienteering with coloured ribbons until we reach our patch the ‘Faraway End’.

**PAYMENT** is collected in termly blocks. Fees are due in advance for all sessions in that term, if you miss a session, you will still have to pay. A discount is available for additional days.

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| **Rate**(per session) | **One session** |
| **Really Super Helpful** (this helps to fund concessionary places) | £35 |
| **Standard** | £33 |
| **Concession\*** | £30 |
| **Sibling** | £28 |

\* Please email for availability. We will not ask for proof of income and trust that you will pay what you can afford to.

**CANCELLED SESSIONS** Home Ed-Venturers sessions will run in all weather conditions unless the Forest School Leader views the woods as too dangerous to work in or the children’s well-being to be at risk. A session will be cancelled in extreme bad weather, including strong winds exceeding 42mph or electrical storms, where the unpredictability of tall trees may be a hazard. Where possible and safe the session will be moved into the fields to avoid cancellation. Parents will be notified the day before the session and confirmation given in the morning if conditions are still dangerous.

If a session is cancelled due to circumstances out of our control, for example the weather, a refund will not be issued.

**SIGNING UP** If you would like to sign up for Home Ed-Venturers or to join our waiting list please email veronika.homeedventurers@gmail.com. Your first session will be a **free** taster session!
If your child has specific needs, the taster session is for you to see if the session is right for your child and for us to gauge whether we are able to support your child’s needs. If we feel we cannot meet the needs of your child and that their attendance could cause risk that we cannot manage then we may suggest this is not the group for you. Please be aware that we are not able to fund 1:1 support, however will be happy to support this where we can.

All children attending the sessions must be able to go to the toilet independently.

**ENROLLING** Forest School is most beneficial over a series of regular sessions. Home Ed-Venturers sessions have been designed for children to attend long term, every week. This way the children’s knowledge, understanding and friendships are built up over time, along with increased confidence and independence in ‘their’ woods.

**OUR SITE** The Home Ed-Venturers site is situated in the beautiful, private woodland on the grounds of Leigh Court Farm.

**CONTACT INFORMATION** For all enquiries and session information contact Veronika-

Email: veronika.homeedventurers@gmail.com
Telephone: **Veronika 07794675891** (please only contact by telephone if urgent)

For Thursday 10-14’s group: **Jack 07751681178** (please only contact by telephone if urgent, for example if you are lost or late for a session)