



Stowford School Curriculum Statement for 'Wild Tribe'



Intent:

There is much evidence to show that taking the curriculum outside can enhance the health and wellbeing of children, as well as encouraging them to be more active. The children learn to manage risks through use of tools, work together through team work challenges, gain appreciation and respect for nature and the impact that humans have on the environment and become more confident with raised self-esteem.

All aspects of the curriculum can be taken outside and by using real life experiences in the outdoors, children are able to gain more inspiration in their writing when back in the classroom.

This mirrors the intent of our Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) curriculum.



Implementation:

Wild Tribe sessions are delivered by a member of Stowford staff weekly in EYFS and KS1 and every fortnight in KS2. There are also trained Wild Tribe practitioners in our nursery and in our wraparound care offer so all children have access on a regular basis to Wild Tribe.

Delivery is planned carefully to enable children to work through and progress in a range of outdoor skills such as fire, knot tying, using tools, outdoor cooking and planting. This is all done through carefully planned activities linked to the current topic being studied which deepen their understanding of learning in the classroom e.g. in a topic about world cookery, children learn fire skills whilst cooking outside over a fire.

This is all done in our Wild Tribe area on the school field where we have a shelter, a fire pit and a wonderful yurt!

The Wild Tribe subject leader keeps up to date and develops subject knowledge for themselves and for staff. A whole schools view is gained by ensuring continuity and progression of skills. Through monitoring, the subject leader focuses on children learning and progress. This is based

on learning walks, discussion with pupils and staff, looking at books and professional discussions. This then becomes linked to CPD and opportunities to share good practice.

The Wild Tribe curriculum provides a rich experience for all children in which they can develop skills to explore, access knowledge and make connections across all learning.



Impact:

Wild Tribe is a wonderful part of our curriculum that has offered the children at Stowford School opportunities to develop holistically and achieve, develop confidence and self-esteem through hands on learning experiences whilst still being on school grounds or by using the local area of Ivybridge. Children are really beginning to understand their senses and are developing a more creative, imaginative way of thinking and seeing the world around them. Each Wild Tribe session has drawn the children together as a group and they are now becoming more supportive of one another when attempting something difficult and they are working much better as a team. They have so much fun every week, despite the cold and rain.

Wild Tribe has enhanced so many vital skills that the children will take forward not only through school but through life! For some of them this will have been their first opportunity to light a fire, try hot chocolate from a kelly kettle, spray their friends with a water gun and most importantly get wet and muddy!