



**Welcome to the Forest School.** We are excited you and your child are considering becoming a part of our school. We are a community of energetic, creative, fun, passionate, gentle, imaginative, motivated and peaceful individuals. We believe learning can be a wondrous adventure and invite you to come along.

Our days are filled with indoor and outdoor activities. Our students thrive on a balance of freedom and form. They take care and responsibility for themselves, each other, the earth and the school as a whole.

### **Everyone Welcome**

The Forest School does not discriminate on the basis of gender, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, economic status or political affiliations.

### **Spirituality**

The Forest School celebrates the wisdom of the earth and the changing of the seasons. The school has no religious affiliations.

### **Peace Place**

Forest School is a peaceable program. Students are actively encouraged and supported in learning non-violent play and communication methods. All students are asked to refrain from bringing weapons of any kind or other items depicting or encouraging violence.

### **The Food**

Communal meals and snacks are a part of Forest School. Parents are asked to participate in a meal preparation rotation, where families provide food for a specific meal or day. Personal snacks can be brought for after school. Our aim is to have garbage free lunches and snacks and ask folks to send food in reusable or recyclable containers. (Thank you for helping protect our planet.)

### **The Time**

The day begins at 9:30 am with outdoor play and finishes at 3:30 pm. We find the morning outdoor time essential for the children and ask families to be here for 9:30 to ensure your child gets the most from that time.

*“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.” William Butler Yeates*

### **Nut Free Zone**

The Forest School is a nut free place. Please refrain from sending any meals or snacks containing nuts of any kind. Be sure to read all labels on prepackaged food and avoid using foods bought in bulk bins.

### **To Bring**

Children are asked to bring outdoor clothes appropriate for the season (e.g. snow pants, rainsuit etc), and indoor shoes. If possible, an extra set of clothes would be great and a water bottle. No toys please.

### **Snow Days**

Snow days will be determined by 8:00 am of each day. If storms arise, arrangements may be made to get children home early. If the weather is indecisive, the school may remain open and families will make decisions based on their own comfort level.

### **The Role of the Parents**

The Forest School values and encourages parental involvement. In addition to family volunteer service, parents are asked to participate in a 1/2 day parental immersion, to attend term check-ins and celebrations and to share ideas and concerns at advisory meetings.

### **The Role of the “Teachers”**

The Forest School values the knowledge and experiences of everyone. Students will learn from community members, parents, professionals, experienced educators and each other. “Teachers” guide and support learners in exploring their interests; initiate interesting quests and invite students to come along and arrange opportunities for play, discovery, adventure and doing.

**The Forest School-** Remember that the Forest School space is available to members for personal gatherings and workshops by donation.

## TUITION & DISCOUNTS

The Forest School is committed to providing an alternative-learning centre that is an affordable choice for families. Through fundraising, volunteer service, a barter exchange program, sibling discounts and alternative payment plans, we aim to be accessible to a diversity of families.

### TUITION

There are one and two day/week enrollment options. **Payment may be made for the year or by the first day of each term.**

*Term 1:* September 12 to December 19, 2011  
Cost: \$500/ \$1000

*Term 2:* January 9 to March 9, 2011  
Cost: \$332/ \$644

**Family Adventure Break-** March 11 to April 12, 2012

*Term 3:* April 13 to June 18, 2012  
Cost: \$332/ \$644

Year Tuition- \$1144/ \$2288

**Tuition reserves your child's spot at the Forest School. There will be no reimbursement for days missed.**

**Service:** Families are asked to contribute a minimum of 5 hours of volunteer service per term. (Service completed by families reduces the schools costs and ultimately tuition). These hours maybe bought out at a rate of \$10/hour, though participation is encouraged. There are many types of volunteer services that any family member may provide.

**Fundraising:** Families are asked to contribute to the annual **group** fundraising endeavors of \$600 per term. (This is a group goal, not per family). Families have the option of buying out their fundraising contribution at a cost of \$300 for the year, or \$100/term registered.

**Fee:** There is a one-time registration fee of \$125.00/family. This fee is a long-term investment in the school, allows us to provide for all the students supply needs and includes a family membership.

### DISCOUNTS

**Barter-Exchange Program:** Any family may apply to reduce their child's tuition through the barter-exchange program. This option is available if you provide necessary services that are in our expense budget or provide services that generate growth and income for the school. We value these services at \$10/hour.

**Family Discount:** 10% off tuition costs for each additional child.

**Early Registration:** Families that pay the years tuition by August 15 receive a 3% discount.

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# The Forest School - Application for Admission

YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian #1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian #2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

♦ Which enrollment option are you registering?  One day/week  Two day/week

♦ Payment Plan Choice:  For entire year  Per term

***Per term payments are due the first class of each term.***

If this is your first time registering, a one-time application fee of \$125 is due with this application. Please identify your payment make cheques payable to ***Element of Adventure***. Please mail application and payment to: Attention: Sue Holloway, The Forest School, R.R.#1, South Gillies, ON, PoT 2Vo

*The Forest School welcomes all people. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability, political affiliation, family structure, or national or ethnic origins.*

I have read the joining package, am interested in registering my child and understand the commitment required in becoming a member of the Forest School.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

(Optional)

I hereby give my permission to the Forest School to photograph, audiotape or videotape my child and to use my child's image, spoken words, and/or student work for educational and promotional purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent/Guardian Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

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## Role of the Parents and Families

The Forest School values and encourages parental involvement.

**Volunteer Service- Service:** Families are asked to contribute a minimum of 5 hours of volunteer service per term. (Service completed by families reduces the schools costs and ultimately tuition). These hours may be bought out at a rate of \$ 10/hour, though participation is encouraged. There are many types of volunteer services that any family member may provide. Included is a record sheet to assist you in keeping track of your commitment and a list of possible service ideas. Please let us know if you have any other ideas. At the end of each term families will be asked to pay out any outstanding service hours unless other arrangements are made.

**Parental Immersion-**Parents are asked to participate in a ½ day parental immersion at the Forest School in the term your child is first registered. Accompanying your child to school for ½ day enables you to experience first hand a day in the life of your child at the Forest School. This will provide insight that can help both facilitators and parents support the transference of learnings and practices between the home and school environments. This will not be included as service hours.

**Advisory Meetings-**One meeting will be held each term. These meetings are opportunities for parents and staff to talk about how things are going at the Forest School, share ideas, concerns, and provide feedback and suggestions. All parents are asked and encouraged to come.

**Fundraising-**All families involved in the Forest School are expected to contribute to the year's group fundraising endeavours of \$600/term. You may choose to buy out your contribution at a set fee of \$100/term enrolled. In the first weeks of school, a parent fundraising meeting will be held to discuss the terms plans.

**Term Check-in and Celebration-**In each term parents are asked to attend the term check-in and celebration. This is an opportunity to gather with other families, participate in a fun event with your child and his/her friends, and share in their excitement and creativity. It is also an opportunity to spend one-on-one time with the facilitators to discuss your child's experiences at the Forest School.

**Meal Preparation Rotation-**As previously mentioned, parents are asked to contribute to the communal meals. The families involved will arrange the logistics of this at the beginning of each term.

The Forest School values everyone's knowledge and experiences. If you have an interest, craft or skill that you would be interested in sharing with the students, please contact Sue at 473-4599.

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## The Forest School Health Form ~ School Year \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Physician's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Physician's Number \_\_\_\_\_ Child's OHIP Number \_\_\_\_\_

**General Health Information:** *Please check all that apply and give necessary details. Use the back if needed.*

Activity Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Asthma \_\_\_\_\_

Dental (Braces/Retainer?) \_\_\_\_\_

Diet Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

Seizures \_\_\_\_\_

Vision (Glasses/contacts?) \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Is your child currently taking any medication?  Yes  No

Please list medications and their intent. \_\_\_\_\_

If there is anything else you feel we should know concerning your child's health or mental or physical condition?

**Please check the boxes below, which you agree to authorize. (Please keep a copy for your records).**

I hereby authorize the representatives of the Forest School to contact my child's physician or to have my child taken to a hospital or health care facility in case of serious illness or an accident involving my child. I authorize the administration of any necessary treatments to my child in case of emergency.

I hereby give my permission to the representatives of the Forest School to administer over-the-counter medications or homeopathic remedies to my child, which I have indicated in the list below:

Tylenol     Ibuprophen     Rescue Remedy

I hereby give my permission to the representatives of the Forest School to, if need be, administer prescriptions or medications, which I provide, and which must be kept on hand for the use of my child.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## PARTICIPANT RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I affirm that the confidential medical information that has been provided is accurate and complete. I understand that failure to disclose this information could affect my own safety and those around me, and I agree to hold the Forest School harmless if full disclosure of a pre-existing medical condition has not been provided. In the event of illness or injury, consent is hereby given to provide emergency medical care, hospitalization or other treatment, which may become necessary.

In all programs offered by the Forest School, reasonable care is taken to prevent serious injuries and to minimize accidents. I am aware that all activities, even under the safest of conditions, have inherent dangers. I hereby accept responsibility for and assume the risk of injury or damage to my child that might arise directly or indirectly as a result of participation in The Forest School. I hereby express release, discharge and hold harmless from any liability whatsoever, The Forest School and all employees and volunteers in their capacity as representatives of The Forest School.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Name (please print)      Participant's Signature      Date

If applicant is under 18 years of age:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Parent/Guardian (please print)      Signature of Parent/Guardian      Date

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I am interested in sharing my contact information for the purposes of car-pooling.  Yes  No

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