



EASTBROOKEND RANGERS FOREST SCHOOL

Launch report - first session completed!



EASTBROOKEND'S VERY FIRST FOREST SCHOOL!

On Thursday 4th May 2023, the woods at Eastbrookend came alive with the laughter of children and parents taking part in a **brand new forest school initiative delivered by LBBD Ranger Service**, in partnership with **Early Years Cocoon CIC** and funded by **BD Money**.

Eastbrookend Forest School was born out of a desire to bring local families closer to nature and the outdoors by providing them with **high-quality, accessible and free weekly sessions**.

With the financial support of Eastbrook Ward and Northbury Councillors, a **stunning outdoor learning area that is fully accessible to wheelchair users and equipped with state-of-the-art off road wheelchairs** was created to house Eastbrookend Forest School and many other educational and community-focused activities run by LBBD Ranger Service.

Initial **feedback from families has been very positive**, with all eleven families that attended the first session wanting to sign up to the second one and become regular attendees. See some of the feedback below!

PARENT FEEDBACK

We loved it! My son can't wait to attend the next session 😍

Thank you for organising this wonderful session. My son enjoyed it immensely and looking forwards to the next one ❤️

We had such a great time! My daughter was so enthusiastic about it, she was telling her dad all about it! Ranger Jonathan was very gentle and knowledgeable and handled the session beautifully!

We would like to be regulars, the girls enjoyed and asked to come again. It's great to have some time outdoors, unwind, and be with the kids doing activities together. Definitely would promote this with the council to keep going.

Thank you for this special day 😊😊



EASTBROOKEND RANGERS FOREST SCHOOL

THANK YOU - FIRST TERM COMPLETED!

...and it's a wrap! On Thursday 25th May, **Eastbrookend Forest School** celebrated the end of its first term of weekly classes. Here are the highlights...

In **session 1**, 12 children and 12 parents were introduced to the forest school ethos, and then quickly got their hands dirty with some survival shelter building!

In **session 2**, 11 families practiced lighting fires in a safe and environmentally friendly way, using modern strikers and ancient flint and steel techniques.

Session 3 was completely dedicated to bushcraft, as 12 families worked in teams to toast marshmallows and boil water for hot chocolates.

Finally, **session 4** focused on searching for small animals in the woodland, creating minibeast hotels and relaxing by the fire with a cuppa and s'more. 12 families attended the session.

We provided free regular forest school sessions to almost 20 local families, improving mental health and family social time!

We look forwards to another term of woodland fun in June 2023!!

Eastbrookend Forest School is made possible and free for local families through the generous financial support of **BD Money, Eastbrook Ward** and **Northbury Councillors**. The Rangers at Eastbrookend thank them very much for what they have added to our community.

WHAT PARENTS SAID

I just wanted to say a big thank you for the forest school. My daughter and her friends just adore it. Yesterday she came home full of positive emotions. She was very excited. And a big applause to the forest school teacher. He is always helpful and kind. It's a wonderful idea to have such a club next to us. Lovely place and great people! Thank you very much for what you are doing. You are doing a great job for our community and our kids.

