

Woodwork in the Early Years

What is woodwork?



Woodwork provides a unique learning experience for young children. It is so rich in many areas of learning and development, and it is an activity which children really enjoy, being absorbed for extended periods of time.

What are the benefits for my child?

The benefits of woodwork are endless. It is easy to list the benefits woodwork has for children. It gives children a sense of competence, confidence, responsibility, respect for self and others, and respect for materials and safety.

All areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) can be promoted and developed through woodwork.

Children can measure, imagine, build, draw, communicate, count, design and **much more!!**

What tools will my child be using?

Your child will be supervised to use child size hammers, saws, nails, screws, screwdrivers, tape measures and wood glue. The children will be shown all tools and taught how to use them before being able to handle them. Staff will be always on hand during woodwork sessions on a small ratio, 1:4 being the maximum.

What are the risks for my child?

Children will be taught and shown how to use the tools before using them to minimise risk. Children will also be on a small ratio so staff will be readily available to help and always support. A risk assessment has been put into place for woodwork and with all of the control measures in place, the remaining risk is very low.

How often will woodwork take place?

Woodwork will be a part of practice that will be provided on a regular basis. Staff will also use this as part of 'in the moment planning' and will use it to extend children's learning. Woodwork will mainly be carried out in the garden but can come indoors depending on some factors such as the weather.







