



EQUIPMENT AND TOOL USE POLICY

Types of equipment

A variety of craft equipment, resources and tools are used during our sessions to support our learners on their development journeys. Equipment is selected to match the interests and needs of the learners in the session and we ensure that sufficient equipment is provided so all learners can access what they need and progress. We build on equipment use based on their skill level and interests so that learners are sufficiently challenged.

Our tools include: fire-steels, potato peelers, shovels, spades, loppers, secateurs, palm drills, hand-drills, hammers, rubber mallets, billhooks, hacksaws, bow saws, folding saw, pull saw, axe and sheath knives. All forest school participants will be introduced to the tools in a structured way with the emphasis on teaching tool safely.

Tool safety

All directors, associates, volunteers and children will be trained in correct and safe use of all tools - following the tool talks cards, modelling and verbal discussion.

All children will access tools only when they are emotionally ready and calm and will be supervised by adults whilst using tools, 1:1 initially then group supervised when competency is established.

All tools are counted out and in, must be returned to the toolbox or designated tool area after use and safety checked before next use by BEING Outdoors CIC.

Checks

Natural and recycled materials are checked prior to use to ensure they are clean and safe to use.

All resources and equipment are checked regularly. We repair and clean, or replace any unsafe, worn out, dirty or damaged.