Acorns Therapeutic Forest School

Rooted in Safety. Growing through Relationships. Flourishing through Nature.

Vision Statement

At Acorns Therapeutic Forest School, we believe every child deserves to feel safe, understood, valued and that they belong. Our vision is to provide a therapeutic, relationship-centered and nature-based provision where children can rebuild trust, develop emotional wellbeing, and rediscover confidence in themselves as learners. Through therapeutic relationships, trauma-informed practice and immersive Forest School experiences, we create opportunities for children to develop resilience, emotional literacy, independence, and self-belief. Forest School is the foundation through which our therapeutic approach is experienced every day.

Our Ethos

Children must feel safe before they can belong, belong before they can engage, and engage before they can achieve. Everything we do is underpinned by therapeutic principles, relational practice, and the belief that positive outcomes are achieved through connection rather than control.

Core Principles

- Relationships Before Learning
- Regulation Enables Learning
- Behaviour is Communication
- Strengths Create Success
- Nature Nurtures Wellbeing
- Every Child Deserves Belonging

Why Acorns Exists

Many pupils accessing Acorn's experience EBSA, anxiety, interrupted education, poor attendance, emotional regulation difficulties and negative experiences of school. Acorn's priorities emotional safety, regulation, relationships and belonging as the foundations for educational success.

Our Aims

Provide safety, build belonging, support wellbeing and regulation, restore confidence, nurture growth through nature, and develop readiness for learning and future educational pathways.

Intended Outcomes

Children will feel Safe, Connected, Regulated, Successful, Empowered, Ready to Learn and able to Flourish both within education and beyond.

Partnership with Families

Families are central to success. We value family voices, maintain open communication, collaborate with external professionals, and celebrate progress together.

Measuring Success

Success will be evidenced through improved attendance and engagement, increased feelings of safety and belonging, stronger relationships, improved wellbeing, greater emotional regulation, positive pupil and family feedback, progress towards EHCP targets and readiness for future educational opportunities.

Conclusion

Acorns provide more than an educational provision; it provides a place where children can reconnect with themselves, others and learn. Our ambition is not simply to improve attendance or academic outcomes, but to help children feel safe enough to learn, connected enough to belong and confident enough to flourish.

Providing roots through safety, relationships, and belonging, so that every child can grow, flourish, and thrive.