# Woodland Use Policy

Fire and Air uses forest schools, environmental education and other outdoor learning opportunities to impassion and inspire people about the outdoor environment.

These should involve a regular commitment to people using an area of woodland. As such two aspects must be balanced – that of people and that of wildlife.

In view of this the following recommendations are made.

* Use of land by Fire and Air should not have a dramatic impact on the environment.
* Leaders and children should always check the area at the end of a session to ensure nothing untoward has been left behind.
* The area will be maintained for Fire and Air’s use and paths and well used areas will be cleared. The maintenance of this will be agreed in advance with the land manager. Other areas will be managed according to the management plan.
* However certain areas may be considered to be “off limits” due to the relative risks to the children or impact on wildlife. These are agreed in advance with the landowner/manager.
* There should be an annual check on the area a representative of the land management and Fire and Air staff to ensure the woodland provides no immediate risk.
* Fire and Air staff should undertake a daily site check before every session. Minor problems can be dealt with, and major issues should be reported to the land manager or Fire and Air director. .
* The woodland should not be used in extreme weather, including high winds and severe thunderstorms.
* As the woodland is open to the public/used by others, there should be no long term obvious alteration to the environment that maybe considered un-aesthetic, or introduce obvious man-made alterations.
* In order not to encourage unsupervised or unwanted behaviours in members of the public, fire circles, shelters and other uses of the woodland should not be obvious from the footpath –Fire and Air will ensure fires or shelters can only be managed under suitable supervision by a trained adult.
* Finally Fire and Air aims to observe the concept of not adding or taking away from the environment.