



Irish Forest School Association

Roots Grow Down – Inaugural Conference & AGM

20-21st May 2017 – Irish National Heritage Park

Saturday, May 20, 2017

9:30 – 10:30 am

Registration

Workshops Selected on a first come, first served basis.

10:30 am

Opening Circle

Ciara Hinksman, IFSA Founding Chair.

10:45 am

Welcoming words from the Irish National Heritage Park

Christopher Hayes, Forest Manager

11:00 am

Chairperson's Address & Official Launch of IFSA

Joan Whelan, Chairperson, IFSA

11:30 am

Keynote: Quality Forest School Learning – An Inspirational Process

Jon Cree, FSA

1:00 – 2:15 pm

Lunch & Sit Spot/Reflection

Concurrent Workshops – Session 1

Workshop 1: Jenny Dungan

Forest School learning in the primary school

2:15 – 3:45 pm

Workshop 2: Brian Poots

The journey to establishing the Northern Ireland Forest School Association (NIFSA)

Workshop 3: Orla Gallagher & Trisha McLoughlin

Grounding Early Years Practice in Nature Pedagogy

Concurrent Workshops – Session 2

Workshop 4: Jon Cree

Forest School supporting learners with challenging behavior

3:45 – 4:15 pm

Workshop 5: Marina Robb

How Forest School activities can help us learn about plants

Workshop 6: Carol Middleton

An Opportunity for forest school leaders to reflect on their journey so far.

5:30 pm

Closing Circle led by Ciara Hinksman

6:30 pm

Gather for dinner – served in The Big Crannog – a feast fit for a Viking

(Vegetarian option available)

9:00 pm

Meet for Drinks in Wexford town

Sunday, May 21, 2017

8:30 am

Time for Reflection led by Jon Cree

9:00 am

Registration – Day 2

9:30 am

Opening Circle and Gratitude with Ciara Hinksman

Concurrent Workshops – Session 3

Workshop 7: Joan Whelan

Research into Forest School – Sharing & discussion on research on FS learning in Ireland

Workshop 8: Skill Share Sessions (Others to be confirmed)

10:00 – 11.30 am

Shane Furlong – Fundamental Knife Skills

Jenny Dungan – Simple Creativity using dyes from the plants around us

Caroline Carroll Percival – Forest School in Practice – Basic Routines

Workshop 9: Mirjam Bloem

World Café – Opportunities for networking and discussion

11:45 am

IFSA AGM

Where to from here? & Election of committee 2017/18

1:00 pm

Mayor of Wexford, Frank Staples to close conference

1:30 pm

Closing Circle led by Ciara Hinksman

2:00 pm

End of Conference