



# Outdoor Learning Projects Summer 2021



**Cupernham Infant School**

***"Together we care, we learn and  
we achieve"***

# PHASE 1

## SUMMER 2021

We are pleased to announce 3 very exciting Outdoor Projects happening this term to enhance our outdoor learning provision here at Cupernham Infant School.

OUTDOOR CANOPY CLASSROOM

OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATRE

ADDITIONAL OUTDOOR LEARNING AREA



# PROJECTS



The outdoor learning area is supported by our amazing FOCUS.

Outdoor Learning Area



Outdoor Amphitheatre



The Amphitheatre supported by our DfE Sports Premium Grant and hopefully a grant application to the Test Valley Community Grant.



The Outdoor Classroom is funded using our School Capital Budget.

Outdoor Canopy Classroom



# OUTDOOR CANOPY CLASSROOM

Outdoor classrooms are becoming more and more popular as they provide primary schools and nurseries with practical, covered spaces for outdoor learning, socialisation and play all within the current grounds.

From the freezing cold rain and wind during the colder winter months to the burning rays of the summer sun, an outdoor learning/play area can face numerous problems when it comes to the unpredictable English weather throughout the year.

With an outdoor classroom situated on outside the Year 1 area, children can be provided with necessary shade and shelter within a few steps outside their classroom doors.

While learning outdoors, during forest school approach sessions, children can explore the outdoor environment before using their outdoor classroom as a meeting point, discussing everything they have found and not forgetting things during the walk, back to the indoor classroom to take their coats and wellies off.

Taking children into a fresh, new environment, where they are surrounded by nature, is the perfect way to increase participation in lessons.

While in the outdoor environment and away from the constraints of the indoor classroom, children become more focused in the lesson or activities taking place as they forget about all of the stresses and distractions back inside.





# OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATRE

Our new amphitheatre will not only provide children with outdoor learning opportunities, but also host concerts for the whole community. It is not just for us, it is for the local community and one that should strengthen links with them. The children will have the opportunity to learn not just about acting, performance and dance, but will also be given the experience and opportunity of playing static instruments that will be built around it.

The amphitheatre will provide valuable opportunities for children and young adults to combine physical literacy with imagination and creativity, driven by cross curricular work. Through having a unique space to dance and perform, children will develop, fundamental movement skills and balance, agility and coordination. They will also develop verbal and non-verbal communication of ideas and emotions and encourages teamwork and problem solving.



# OUTDOOR LEARNING AREA

This small area is a perfect space to develop into an additional outdoor teaching and learning facility for the school. It is bounded by fences on all sides and so secure. It has good mixed terrain with open spaces and natural foliage for both screening and segregating areas naturally.

It even has a ready made storage shed that could be used to house teaching materials, visual aids, learning apparatus etc. With very little engineering and infrastructure this area could come into immediate and regular use. All that might be needed is the following:

Some ground and tree clearance will be needed to make the area safe and accessible and open it up a little more. A simple path/trail that the youngest children could follow around the area with boxes and mini lecterns for placing work sheets and written materials.

Log/bench seating to accommodate a full class of children (moveable and modular designs so that different layouts could be configured). A large group table for writing and more dexterous work. One or two simple sail shades or suspended tarpaulins that could be up and taken down according to weather conditions accompanied with a set of simple materials for outdoor teaching and learning and Forest School approach activities.





# WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- To help assist us with our amazing outdoor learning projects and help us go that extra mile, we would like you to spread the word and use your contacts to ask local business if they can donate resources for these amazing projects. In turn, we can offer them a free advertisement in our school newsletter. We are going to need:

We need a tree surgeon to donate lots of logs to be used as seats



We need a garden centre or a carpenter to make/donate a few raised beds to create a sensory garden



We need a garden centre or a carpenter to make/donate picnic benches for children to sit and collaborate.



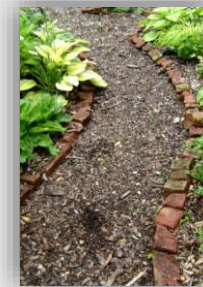
Outdoor chalk boards to help take the learning outside!



We need donations for a selection of Insect Hotels to add to our outdoor spaces.



We need lots of bark to help fill our new pathways through our amazing grounds



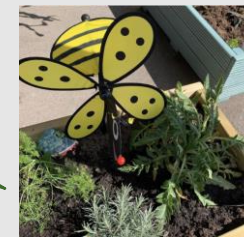
We need wooden cable reels to make tables and seats.



We need a colourful windmills to brighten up our outdoor learning spaces.



We need a colourful plants and herbs for our sensory garden.



If you are able to help then please email [adminoffice@cupernham-inf.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@cupernham-inf.hants.sch.uk) Thank You!



PHASE 2

2021-22

# THE SCHOOL POND

## 2021-22

School ponds used for Science and Environmental Teaching Ponds are a precious resources in schools and should be kept and maintained as they are expensive and time consuming to install in the first place.

The natural pond in our school has not been used as much as we would have liked (due to it being empty of water for most of the year) and as a result has been allowed to deteriorate a little. We are wanting to use this pond all year round and suggest that the following work would need to take place:

- Clear out the dead or inappropriate plants both in and around the pond and undertake some new aquatic planting and planting around the area.
- Undertake some landscaping around the pond to create better habitats and a nicer aesthetic.
- Renew the deck/platform to make it safe and more accessible.
- Remove the benches around the area (which mostly look rotten and replace then with portable sleeper benches that can moved around the area as required).
- Introduce one or more group tables for outdoor working.

**Approximate cost for the project - £6000**

Current  
Pond



Revamped  
Pond area  
idea

