



Books in the Woods
Weather Policy
Last review: April 2025

We are committed to reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

Weather Conditions

- Assessments of weather conditions will be taken prior to the session and if the weather is too extreme the session will be cancelled.
- If the weather deteriorates suddenly during a session, the playgroup will finish early.
- When windy and there is a danger of falling branches, families will be directed to the open meadow away from the trees and finish early.
- Attendees are advised to wear sturdy footwear or Wellington boots and suitable warm/waterproof clothing.
- Participants will experience hot, cold and wet weather but this will harm no one if they are properly dressed.
- In extreme heat, care will be taken to stay in the shade and attendees will be reminded to bring plenty of water for drinking.

When to cancel due to adverse weather

The following weather conditions would trigger an automatic cancellation due to safety concerns. BBC weather reports are a good source of information, as are those on the Met Office website. More local information can be found on the Facebook Page for "The Chilterns Weather Alerts":

- Heavy Rain (The site is usable in light rain)
- Wind predicted to be over 25mph as this could cause branches to fall.
- Gusts predicted to be over 30mph as this could cause branches to fall.
- Snowy/Icy conditions that would cause the site or access to it to be unsafe.
- Thunder and lightning
- Or MET office weather warning.

If a session is already in progress, move the group over to the meadow, away from the woodland. Seek shelter at the visitor centre and dismiss early.

Clothing

Attendees will be given information on suitable clothing to wear on booking a session with Books in the Woods.

We will encourage attendees to wear appropriate clothing that will protect them from heat / cold / rain, as well as keeping arms and legs covered to reduce risks of cuts and scrapes.

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In winter, we suggest:

- Vest or t-shirt
- Long-sleeved top
- Long-sleeved jumper or fleece
- Warm trousers
- Thick socks
- Boots
- Waterproof coat and trousers
- Warm hat, scarf and gloves

In summer, we suggest:

- Light trousers and a light, long-sleeved top
- Sturdy, closed shoes
- Sun hat and sun cream

We also recommend bringing waterproofs in a bag