



We are delighted and very grateful to be able to announce that we have received a grant of £40,000 from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust. The second grant is from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust. This grant will enable us to deliver our 'Safe Spaces' project. This project is built around creating a number of spaces where children can spend time engaging in activities that enhance their wellbeing, teach them independence and life skills. Two of the main spaces that we have made most progress with so far (September 2024) are the allotment and animal pens in The Farm. We now have four large raised beds, two polytunnels and a fruit cage (almost). We have also re-homed two pairs of rabbits and are nearly ready to re-home some guinea pigs and some rescue hens.

The spaces also include re-establishing our woods as an area for Forest School, a bespoke den building area and a quiet garden. There will also be a large sensory garden and a flower garden around our Storyteller's Hut. These will be used for all children across the school with a particular focus on those children who are struggling emotionally, have mental health difficulties and around times of deployment.

The expected impact of this project is as follows:

Access to Enhanced Provision and Outdoor Learning activities will support and enhance the emotional wellbeing support package we already have. Outdoor learning is shown to develop resilience and independence in children enabling them to cope with change and increase their perseverance and determination. As well as this, our pupils will have opportunities to develop problem solving skills and improve their ability to co-operate with others and

develop team building skills.

We would expect to see:

- An increase in positive mental attitude, self-motivation and independence.
- Children will be emotionally 'ready to learn' and demonstrate increased resourcefulness, self-regulation and resilience.
- A decrease in incidents of disengagement and disruptive behaviour in and out of the classroom.
- Improved attendance and academic outcomes.
- Pupil and Parent/Carer voice feedback will demonstrate improved pupil emotional wellbeing.
- Increased perseverance, self-confidence and communication skills.
- An increase in the number of opportunities available to widen and enhance pupil learning experiences.