



the patch

at johns lane farm

Patch Membership

Patch Membership has been designed for families who wish to engage with The Patch in an ongoing, collaborative & community experience. Your family will become an integral part of The Patch Family, helping to shape and develop the future of our wonderful outdoors site... we look forward to contributing to the backdrop of your children's childhood, your family memories and for you to know that we are holding a space for you each month...

We are proud to introduce the details of our Membership Scheme

Membership opportunities are limited to 14 families per session and membership sessions run monthly on a Sunday from 9.30 – 12.00 or 1.30 – 4.00. Our 2021 dates are: Oct 17, Nov 21 & Dec 19

An example out-line of the sessions

Arrival and welcome around the campfire:

Meeting together around the campfire with a warm welcome, a hot cuppa, and an overview of the session. The Patch children will be given their new Patch kit pieces to add to their kit bag, and everyone will have an opportunity to catch up and settle in...

Patch jobs:

Patch jobs are a wonderful way to engage the whole family with hands-on, practical activities that help to maintain and develop The Patch, these activities are designed to be fun and fulfilling, and to provide us with a sense of achievement. They are community activities which we do together as a team, and can be adapted to suit each member of our Patch community, ensuring that even the littlest children can participate. These Patch jobs will include things like laying woodchip pathways, planting hedgerows, digging the allotment and maintaining the nature pond.

Campfire cooking:

After some hard work on the land, there will be time to rest and recuperate with a hearty campfire snack, whether this is a pre-prepared soup accompanied by freshly made bread, or pancakes that are made to order, the joy of eating together around the campfire is pure pleasure, and everything tastes so much better when eaten outdoors with fresh air and great company. Our choices of campfire snacks will be determined by the group, and we aim to develop the confidence in fire lighting and outdoors cooking for all of the family.

Seasonal skills & Woodcraft:

A wonderful mix of bushcraft & forest school style activities... exploring tools, woodcraft, seasonal and nature-based activities, we will explore, develop and create a wide appreciation and understanding of all types of tools and equipment. From using hammers and nails, whittlers and peelers, axes and saws, to identifying and choosing wood, working with ropes and knots, to lighting fires and foraging. By working with real tools, we will address safe working practices, assessing and managing risk, and developing respect and understanding of many traditional and fundamental skills.

Lots of time to play:

In addition to all of our planned activities there will of course be plenty of time for children and adults alike to play, relax and connect by exploring the wholesome and nurturing space. In addition to all the usual areas, we will also have a fully stocked mud kitchen with invitations to use ingredients to mix potions and make elaborate mud pies, and a creative set laid out on the storytelling stage, for role play, storytelling and imaginative play. Honouring the importance of free-play and encouraging children of all ages to share and create together.

Our greatest hope for these sessions is that you and your families can carve out some regular time in your month to come and join us for a wholesome, vibrant, engaging and playful adventure, where you can experience what it feels like to belong to a warm and nurturing community that puts collaboration, care, creativity and childhood at the very centre of all that it strives to be...

If this sounds like something that you and your families would like to be a part of, then we would love for you to join us...

Costings

Patch Membership is charged at £10 per person per month, and will be collected via PayPal's subscription service. Your monthly membership fee can be made up of any configuration of members (parents, children, grandparents etc.) While some families are planning to attend with their friends – please do let us know this on your registration form so that we can ensure that you are allocated the same sessions.

Membership Benefits

Your monthly Patch Membership session offers you:

- A monthly 2.5 hour session, as part of a regular community group
- Refreshments & campfire snack
- Resources and materials for activities and crafts
- A Patch Kit bag for each child with a new item each month

In addition, your membership gives you the following benefits:

- A secure Member Zone on The Patch website (monthly newsletter, secure space to upload and share photos / memories etc.)
- You and your family will be named as Patch associates, with volunteering status
- You will receive 48-hour priority booking for all other Patch events
- You will receive year-round access to The Patch (some sessions will be scaled back during the winter months)
- Participation in Seasonal Events: Winter Banquet / Spring Festival / Summer Camping
- Opportunity to request hire for private events

Terms and Conditions of Patch Membership

In addition to the usual terms and conditions of The Patch, and The Patch Promise the following applies to Patch Membership:

- Payment will be collected on the 1st of each month via the PayPal subscription service
- You are asked to commit to a minimum of 3 months, after the three months you can cancel your membership by giving us 30 days notice.
- Only named members may attend each session*
- Children remain the responsibility of their children at all times, and children must attend with at least one adult.

*On the occasional times that you may have grandparents or family visiting they are welcome to attend to share the Patch Membership sessions with you. We ask that you give us at least one weeks notice so that we can accommodate the additional numbers, and will send you an invoice to pay for the additional spaces.

To complete a registration form for your family please visit:

www.the-patch.org/whatson/patch-family-membership

If you have any questions please email us at membership@the-patch.org