

Mendham Primary School & Nursery
Mendham
IP20 0NJ
Tel: 01379 852520



St. Edmund's Primary School
Hoxne
IP21 5AD
Tel: 01379 668283

Academy Head – Henry Huxtable
Email: head.wvp@consortiumtrust.org.uk

16th December 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

Outdoor learning

We are excited to announce that after the Christmas break all children will be able to take part in an outdoor learning session once a week.

Outdoor learning encourages children to develop confidence, resilience, and a deep connection with nature. It is based on a child-centred ethos that promotes holistic development through regular, hands-on experiences in a natural environment. It focuses on fostering independence, teamwork, problem-solving, and respect for the outdoors.

Suitable Clothing

For outdoor learning in bad weather, clothing should prioritize warmth, dryness, and comfort. A waterproof jacket with a hood is essential to protect against rain and wind, while waterproof trousers help keep legs dry. Layering is key: start with a moisture-wicking base layer to keep sweat away from the skin, add an insulating layer like fleece for warmth, and finish with a weatherproof outer layer. Sturdy, waterproof boots with good grip are important for muddy or slippery terrain, and thick socks help maintain warmth. Accessories such as waterproof gloves, a warm hat, and a neck gaiter provide extra protection against cold temperatures. Bright or reflective elements on clothing can also improve visibility in poor weather conditions.

Children will need a clean/dry set of footwear and clothing to wear in school through the rest of the day.

We Need Your Help

To make these sessions safe and enriching, we are inviting parents and family members to volunteer. Your support will help us maintain appropriate adult-to-child ratios and ensure that every child has the opportunity to thrive in this unique learning environment.



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<http://www.mendhamprimaryschool.org.uk/>

<http://www.stedmundsprimary.org.uk/>

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Volunteer Expectations

As an outdoor learning volunteer, you will:

- Assist with supervising children during outdoor activities.
- Encourage exploration and curiosity while respecting safety guidelines.
- Support the leader in setting up and tidying away resources.
- Model positive behaviour and enthusiasm for outdoor learning.

No prior experience is necessary—just a willingness to be outdoors, get involved, and help create a positive experience for the children.

As not working with individual pupils you will not need a DBS but if this is something you would consider completing, please let the office know; you will need to read a sign a volunteers agreement which outlines safeguarding procedures.

Next Steps

If you are interested in volunteering, please let us know your availability on the attached form by 16th December 2025. We will provide a short briefing on safety and expectations before the sessions begin.

Outdoor Learning Volunteers – Fill in form

Yours Sincerely

Handwritten signature of Mrs Nicola Jones.

Mrs Nicola Jones
Assistant Academy Head

Handwritten signature of Jessica Chamberlain.

Jessica Chamberlain
Outdoor Learning Teacher



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