



# Wilderness Schooling

Presentation to Parents

January 2018



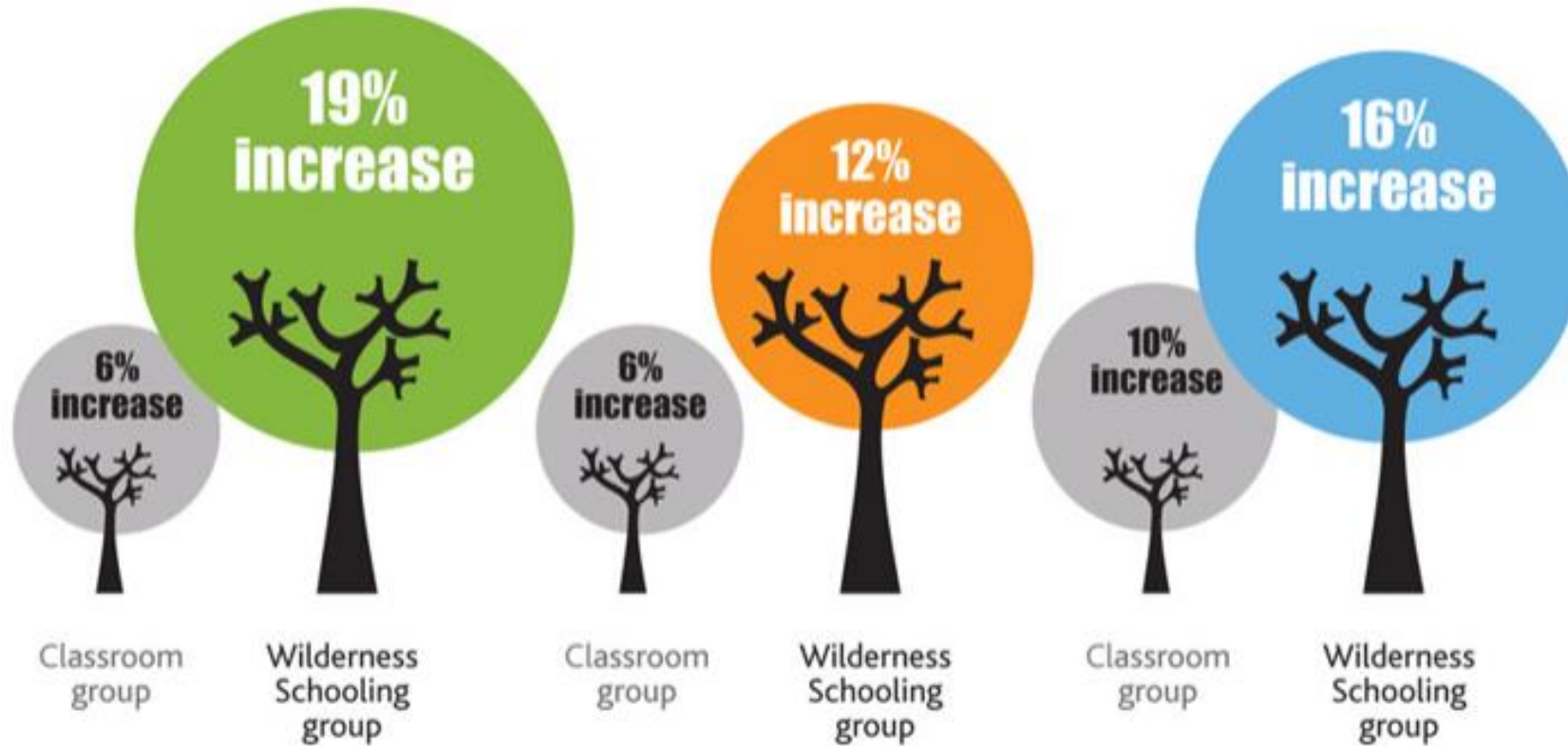
# What is Wilderness Schooling?

- ▶ Wilderness Schooling is a six week outdoor learning project
- ▶ It delivers the **core curriculum in maths, science and English**, using the outdoors as the classroom.
- ▶ The six sessions are divided into two English, two maths and two science focussed days
- ▶ Class 8 will be taking part in Wilderness Schooling after half term and Class 7 after Easter
- ▶ This will involve us going from school, to Foxglove Covert Nature Reserve in Catterick, every Thursday for six weeks

# Why are we involved?

- ▶ The aim is to raise standards in core subjects
- ▶ As well as a concern with achieving new levels of curriculum attainment, Wilderness Schooling sets out to gather and present the evidence that children can develop socially and emotionally through engagement with the outdoors
- ▶ It offers our children real life, hands on learning opportunities in an inspiring and engaging location
- ▶ Wilderness Schooling is for all children
- ▶ By connecting children to the living environment, we allow them to explore the practical, magical and cross-curricular aspects of learning

Impact of Wilderness Schooling on attainment – **READING**, **WRITING** and **MATHS**



Wilderness Schooling: a controlled trial. Quibell, T. & Charlton, J. (2017) British Educational Research Journal

Wilderness Schooling 

# An Example Wilderness Schooling Day...

- ▶ Children arrive at school for normal time
- ▶ 8:45 Registration at school
- ▶ 9:00 Leave on bus
- ▶ 9:30 Arrive at Foxglove and sign in
- ▶ 9:45 Meet Wilderness Schooling staff and share examples of how they have been 'good learners' throughout the week so far
- ▶ 10:00-12:00 Take part in initial hands-on learning activity. Learn new skills and work together to complete a task (e.g. maths measuring activity, poetry gathering sensory ideas, science river study...)
- ▶ 12:00-12:45 Lunch
- ▶ 12:45-2:00 Task to consolidate their learning, reasoning and problem solving or demonstrate their understanding (writing a personal poem, putting together a news report...)
- ▶ 2:00-2:45 Reflect and review around the campfire
- ▶ 2:45-3:30 Walk to the bus and return home in time for the end of the school day (traffic dependent!)

## Your child will need...

- ▶ Weather appropriate clothing -
  - a waterproof jacket with a hood
  - Hat, gloves, warm layers
  - wellies or walking boots
  - children can come to school dressed in their outdoor clothes. Some sessions we may request a full change to be brought along too
  - Uniform is not required as it is in a secure location
- ▶ A packed lunch, including a drink.

## Further information...

- ▶ <http://www.foxglovecovert.org.uk/>
- ▶ <http://www.wilderness-schooling.co.uk/>