

Path Hill Outdoors

Student Induction Policy

Status:	Updated Policy Date:	Scheduled Review:
Voluntary National Standard	September 2025	September 2027

Our bespoke therapeutic programmes meet the students where they are and are tailored to meet their individual SEMH and SEND needs.

We use a variety of therapeutic and trauma informed approaches to build relationships with each student, at their pace, and provide opportunities for experiences and the learning of new skills that will improve student's self-esteem and emotional resilience.

Many students have had difficult and disrupted experiences of education and some haven't been at a formal education setting for some time. We recognise starting a new provision can be incredibly challenging for our students and some students need an individualised transition plan as they start Path Hill Outdoors.

The first Path Hill session usually consists of a familiarisation walk of the site and an introduction to fire lighting in a woodland space, but it might take some students several sessions to build up to this.

During their first session:

- Students meet their instructor and on duty DSLs, and students are told that these are the people that can help them if they have any questions, worries or safeguarding concerns.
- During activities, relevant elements of the Health and Safety Policy is discussed, as well as individual risk assessments.

An officious, paper-based approach or discussions about 'targets' or education within the first few sessions of a student's arrival is usually not appropriate for new students, considering their previous schools experiences. Within the first term, as they develop a trusting relationship with their instructor, initial discussions are had with the student around;

- the intended outcomes of their placement
- understand how Path Hill Outdoors will help their learning journey, and the learning outcomes they will be expected to achieve.

Once the student feels emotionally regulated enough to talk about their education, these conversations will happen over Path Hill session.

Instructor/student discussions, fed back to SMT via daily debriefs, build on the information provided by referrers and parents/carers and provide us with further understanding of student's individual education and welfare needs.

Individual learning plans are developed with supervision of the 1 to 1 programme managers. See Curriculum Policy.

Reviewed by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia Warwick".

Julia Warwick- Director September 2025