



Press Release | 2 March 2015

Kingsley pupils dig in to create new woodland

Liverpool children have helped sow the seeds for a greener future at Kingsley Primary School and Children's Centre by creating a new school woodland.

At a packed planting day supervised by school staff, The Mersey Forest Team, and regional construction firm Casey, pupils and parents joined helped to plant 250 small trees and 26 large trees on a patch of derelict playground.

Once the school woodland has grown, it will be used to host Forest School sessions, which help to teach children practical and interpersonal skills in a woodland environment.

The trees were funded by Big Tree Plant and Woodland Trust as part of The Mersey Forest (www.merseyforest.org.uk), and also by ForeStClim. Casey contributed to the project by carrying out landscaping works on site in consultation with the school and The Mersey Forest.

John Murphy, Chair of Governors from Kingsley Primary School, said: "We are looking forward in the near future to being able to offer Forest School as part of the curriculum for early years children at the school as a result of the planting of these trees. Future pupils will be able to benefit from the well-known advantages of Forest School, and from having a woodland habitat on site.

'We are grateful for help from all our supporters and continuing support in kind from Caseys.'

Jo Sayers, Community Development Officer at The Mersey Forest, said: "These trees will help to transform this patch of derelict land and turn it into a place of learning and reflection for pupils and staff."

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Notes to editors:

The Mersey Forest

The Mersey Forest is a growing network of woodlands and green spaces spread across Cheshire and Merseyside, which has been creating 'woodlands on your doorstep' for more than 20 years.

The Forest is one of the leading environmental regeneration initiatives in the North West. Through community and partnership working, we have planted 9 million trees - equivalent to five new trees for every person living within the Forest area.

The Forest helps our towns and cities adapt to climate change, creates woodlands that 20% of local people visit at least once a week, and by improving the image of our towns and cities sets the scene for growth within the region's £98 billion economy.

We achieve all of this and more through our partnership of local authorities, landowners, the Forestry Commission, Natural England, the Environment Agency and businesses.

www.merseyforest.org.uk

Big Tree Plant

The Big Tree Plant campaign brings together civil society partners and conservation organisations, such as The Tree Council, Woodland Trust, Trees for Cities, England's Community Forests and Keep Britain Tidy among others, working with Defra and the Forestry Commission.

Please see the campaign website for more information:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/bigtreeplant/>

ForeStClim

ForeStClim brings together a wide range of experts from the United Kingdom and other countries in Europe to work on issues relating to climate change and forestry. This project has received European Regional Development Funding through Interreg IVB.

<http://forestclim.eu/>

