



CERTIFICATE OF BUSHCRAFT LEADERSHIP NCFE LEVEL 3

Information about the course

Awarding bodies

There are currently somewhere in the region of 400 awarding bodies in the UK. These bodies are responsible for design, validation and certification for qualifications throughout the country. They include organisations such as City and Guilds, OCNW, Edexcel and of course the NCFE, perhaps the oldest of all of them. They also approve schools, colleges and private training providers to run their qualifications. It is therefore impossible to run any programme from an awarding body without a fairly rigorous application process, quality control and assurance audit.

Woodcraft School has been granted status as an approved centre to run NCFE programmes and we have been through exactly the same selection process by the NCFE as any centre or FE college running NCFE qualifications.

The Award

It is important to realise that the validity of this award, the level set, the quality assurance and the certification have not been made up by Woodcraft School. The NCFE as an awarding body have approved everything we have written to be at Level 3 and will be responsible for quality control and assurance and will issue certificates to successful students using their logo together with Woodcraft School's.

What does this mean to you

If successful you will leave the course with a certificate of competence at Level 3 from a national awarding body, you will also leave with the BEL (Basic Expedition Leadership), Food Hygiene and Remote Response First Aid. We have decided that formalising the award in partnership with NCFE was the only way to make the qualification valid in the outside world. This is the strength of our award in that we are removed from the validation process and students achieving do so at a standard or level set at nationally.

Acceptance

Students are required to come for an interview which usually lasts about 5 hours in a group setting at our camp near Midhurst. Once you have attended your interview then you will be advised whether you have made it on to the course based on your level of experience. We will ask for a deposit to secure your place for when you start in the autumn.

Woodcraft School Ltd, PO Box 64, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9WL

Tel/Fax: 01730 816299 Email: info@woodcraftschool.co.uk Website: www.woodcraftschool.co.uk

Registered Offices: c/o Goodale Mardle, Green Court, West Street, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9NQ
Company Registration number : 4747591 VAT Registration number 928 5312 16



Attendance dates –please note these dates are compulsory. There is also no cross over allowed between courses if you miss a session. We will fill places on course 1 first and if there is sufficient demand there will be a second course available.

Course 1	
8-12	September 2010
6-10	October 2010
10-14	November 2010
8-12	December 2010
12-16	January 2011
9-13	February 2011
9-13	March 2011
6-10	April 2011
4-08	May 2011
8-12	June 2011

Course 2	
13-17	October 2010
17-21	November 2010
15-19	December 2010
19-23	January 2011
16-20	February 2011
16-20	March 2011
13-17	April 2011
11-15	May 2011
15-19	June 2011
13-17	July 2011

Qualification structure

The qualification will be gained through the successful completion of various assignments, tests observations and question & answer sessions. This evidence will form a portfolio and is effectively a manual of bushcraft and bushcraft tuition, which will be indexed to a workbook we will provide. The NCFE accept photographic evidence for their qualifications and so a digital camera would be very useful. If you do not have access to one then we are able to help take photographs on your behalf and save them onto CD for you.

The qualification consist of four mandatory units as follows

- Outdoor living skills
- Craft
- Natural history
- Lead and Instruct groups in Nature based Outdoor Learning

The course also covers the Basic Expedition Leaders Award, First Aid at Work, Expedition Care Programme and Basic Food Hygiene. Some of these additional awards also form evidence for the program.

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Changes to the curriculum

As educators we are constantly striving to give our students the best experience for their money and therefore we hope to be adding more content from external contractors where possible. This information will be added to the website instructor page in the near future and should be checked regularly for any changes that may affect you.

Timetable

A full breakdown of the course will be available at your first session in the form of a program handbook. This will explain the subjects covered during each session although we may have to change the programme we will endeavour to stick to this plan.

All sessions will be based at our Midhurst site and run from 9 am Wednesday morning to approximately 4pm on Sunday. We allow access to the site between 5 and 7 pm on the Tuesday night for those who have long distances to cover. We regret we are unable to extend this to the Sunday night when all students must leave site. We do expect that students are ready to go at 9 am and are not still arriving or setting up camp. We also expect 100% attendance excepting emergency. It may be that you already hold some of the qualifications on offer in which case we can make an exception to the attendance rule although we are unable to offer any discount should this be the case.

Kit list

Please find below the recommended kit list for the Level 3 Instructor training programme plus information you will need before you start.

General

- Shelter e.g. small tent, basha etc
- Sleeping bag
- Sleeping mat
- Complete change of clothes preferably quick drying material which is spark resistant*
- Footwear appropriate to the weather -you may consider wellies as part of your kit
- Full set of water proofs
- Personal toiletries and medication
- First aid kit especially small cuts kit
- Insect repellent
- Torch and spare batteries
- Mug, plate and eating utensils
- Toilet roll
- Hand cleaning gel
- One litre water bottle
- 10 metres paracord

* we have found wool and polycotton most appropriate for bushcraft activities.

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Extra non-essentials

- Folding chair
- Folding wash bowl or similar
- Binoculars
- Night vision gear
- Spoke shave
- Cabinet scraper
- Crook knife

Tools

- Small fixed blade knife- we recommend the Frost clipper knife or similar
- Folding saw - we recommend the Bacho Laplander
- Gransfors Bruks small forest axe.

Food

Please note that this course is self-catering and you will be expected to bring your own food, cooking and washing up equipment. You will also need your drinks and refreshments. In the past groups have got together for communal cooking and brew kit etc.

It is definitely possible to cook on fires should you choose to do so although for the benefit of the woodland these will be contained to one specific area.

There will be a shopping trip planned for every Friday night to give you chance to stock up or go to the chip shop. Please note that this is not license to visit the pub we operate a strictly no alcohol policy and anyone found to have been drinking will not be allowed back on site and will prejudice their position on the course.

Water

We will ensure that safe drinking water is always available on site.

Essential reading

- Wild flower key - Francis Rose
- Wild flowers - Roger Phillips
- Wild food- Roger Philips
- Animal tracks and sign - Preban Bang and Preban Dhalstrom
- Bushcraft - Mors Kowchanski
- Outdoor handbook - Ray Mears

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Non essential reading

- Herbs Roger Phillips
- Mammal detective Rob Strachan
- Woodcraft and camping Horace Kephaart
- Wildwood Wisdom Elsworth Jaeger
- Song of the paddle Bill Mason (based on canoeing but full of great camping tips)

There will be many other titles for you to peruse during the course from our own personal library and this is a basic list as it could go on and on!

We will also supply lists of relevant websites throughout the course which will be most beneficial to your course work.

Payment

Please note that this is not a funded course. Payment can be either be made in full, in blocks of 3 x £900.00 or alternatively, students have the option of paying monthly by direct debit in advance at £270.00 per session (9 in total). There will be an initial deposit of £270 required to secure your place when you are successful at interview.

Please note that attendance on the course will not be permitted if each session has not been paid for in advance.

If you have any questions regarding this programme, please let us know as soon as possible.

If you have any doubts as to whether this course suits your needs, please be advised there is an extensive list of course reviews from previous years on our website accessed from the instructor page or specifically:

<http://www.woodcraftschool.co.uk/Instructor-reviews.htm> and
<http://www.woodcraftschool.co.uk/Instructor-reviews09.htm>

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