

● Pupils treated to close-up view of nature



Primary school pupils enjoying learning outdoors. Picture: Annington

A PRIMARY school in Abingdon has received a donation of items to help enhance its nature area.

Rush Common School's forest programme aims to encourage outdoor learning and to promote self-esteem, creativity and confidence within the children. Items given included bug pots, binoculars, magnifying glasses, pond nets, a hedgehog house, bird boxes and feeders.

The donation was given to the 'Friends of Rush Common School' by Annington, a housing development company.

Annington is currently responsible for refurbishing 57 former MOD homes at Lamborough Fields in the village of Shippon near the town.

Rebecca Strugnell, chairwoman of the Friends of Rush Common, commented: "Our Forest School at Rush Common teaches pupils how to respect nature and to grow up with a better understanding of where we fit in with the natural environment.

"We were in desperate need of some new resources so the donation from Annington couldn't have come at a better time.

"The pupils, parents and teachers are very grateful for the kit, which will put to great use by children of all ages in the school."

Stacy Whitehead, marketing manager at Annington, added: "Annington is eager to support with any learning focused on protecting our local environment, which aligns so closely with our own sustainable refurbishment plans.

"We hope the items purchased for the forest school can spark curiosity within the children."