


Site Risk Assessment

<p><u>Emergency Telephone Numbers</u></p> <p>Office – 01256 762637</p>	<p><u>Location of Site</u></p> <p>Whitewater C of E Primary School The Street Rotherwick RG27 9BG</p> <p>Grid Reference for Air Ambulance: SU 71200 56300</p>		
Activity	Forest School - Natural, Structured and Loose Materials play including den building and tree climbing	Date	05 March 2023
Location	Whitewater C of E Primary School	School / Visiting Group	
Responsible staff	Robyn Jones	Possible Visitors to site	n/a
Risk Assessment written by Position Signature	Robyn Jones Forest School Leader	Risk Assessment Checked/Approved by	Steve Moore Executive Headteacher
Location of nearest Defibrillator and Code (if known)	Rotherwick Village Hall		
Person (s) responsible on site for 1 st Aid. Robyn Jones	Cert. type	Paediatric First Aid (12 hour)	Date of Cert. 6th November 2022

Activity Risk/Benefit Assessment

Which activity is this assessment for?		Natural, Structured and Loose Materials play including den building and tree climbing				
Consider the benefits to the children of allowing this activity to take place:		Physical development, independence skills, risk management, team work, achieving, perseverance, creativity, safety, develop social skills, using natural world for a purpose, imagination, developing knowledge				
The Hazard	Who could be harmed?	How could they be harmed?	Level of risk (with no control measures in place)	Control	Who will carry out control measure and when (before or during activity)?	Level of risk (with control measures in place)
Uneven ground, natural obstacles	Children	Slips, trips and falls	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily site inspection - Model being aware of trip hazards - Section off any areas which require attention 	Forest School Leader/Support staff (before/during)	Low
Sharp branches, thorns, nettles	Adult/Children	Minor cut/scratch/stings	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make children aware of potential hazards - Manage site grounds to minimize risk - Make gloves available - First aid to be applied at site, larger cuts/more serious injuries to be dealt with in school. Emergency services to be called for severe injuries 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (during)	Low
Poisonous plants	Children	Contact dermatitis, gastrointestinal disorder	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site to be inspected prior to session - Staff to be aware of poisonous plants - Children to be made aware not to pick anything that is living and growing and to keep fingers out of their mouths - Educate about berries and mushrooms 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (before/during)	Low
Animal droppings	Children	Disease	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children to be made aware not to pick up or touch any animal droppings. - Hands to be thoroughly washed 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (during)	Low

				with soap and water if contact made		
Bird droppings/feathers	Children	Avian Flu transmission	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Children to be made aware not to pick up feathers from the site or off site - Children not to touch bird droppings - Hands to be thoroughly washed with soap and water if contact made 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (during)	Low
Using ropes	Children	Rope burn Strangulation Being trapped by a rope	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Model and discuss use of ropes - Ropes to be accounted for at end - Check rope conditions before session and use - Awareness of how a rope is being used - Model how to tie rope to tree - Use bright ropes - Teach about tree suitability - Tape off trees that re not suitable 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (before/during)	Low
Logs/branches	Adult/Children	Being hit by a branch Falling over a log Dropping a log onto a limb	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teach rules on transporting logs/branches (drag if longer than the arm) - Explain how to work as a team if transporting heavy log/branch (share the weight, straight back) 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (during)	Low
Climbing trees	Children	Fall from height	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Teach about tree suitability - Climbing above ground to be monitored and assessed based on the learners ability - Teach that their feet should be no higher than their head height from the ground 	Forest School Leader (before/during)	Low
Using tarp	Children	Suffocation	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Model and discuss use of tarps - Ensure tarps have been visually inspected for safe use prior to session and at end of session - Monitor based on learners ability - Teach safe knots to use (two round turn, 2 half hitches) - Use of tarps dependent on weather conditions (beware of winds) 	Forest School Leader (before/during)	Low

Large objects falling from canopy	Adult/Children	Serious Injury	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check weather prior to session (move session indoors or away from trees if high winds) - Assess trees prior to session and tape off potentially unsafe trees 	Forest School Leader(before)	Low
Small objects falling from canopy	Adult/Children	Bump/Bruise	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Check weather prior to session (move session indoors or away from trees if high winds) - Assess trees prior to session and tape off potentially unsafe trees 	Forest School Leader (before)	Low
Using pegs	Children	Cut/Stabbing	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrate how to carry pegs safely - Model how to put pegs in using mallet (See Tool use RBA) - Account for number of pegs at beginning and end of session 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (before/during/after)	Low
Using string/wool/paracord	Children	Choking/strangulation	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Model how to use string/wool/paracord safely - Store string/wool/paracord effectively - Check suitability of string/wool/paracord prior to use 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (during)	Low
Searching for invertebrates	Children	Eating Being bit/stung	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have gloves available to use if wanted - Have pots to store invertebrates in instead of holding - Teach about different invertebrates - Wash hands after activity - Be aware of children's allergies 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (during)	Low
Mud/Clay Play	Children	Eating mud/clay, Mud/clay in eyes, sharp objects in mud/clay	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Model how to use mud/clay - Children to check mud/clay before use - Discuss not throwing mud/clay - Wash hands after mud/clay play - Gloves to be available 	Forest School Leader/Support Staff (during)	Low

Low Risk (Something which may result in minor damage or slight harm i.e. scratch or bruise)

Medium Risk (Something which may result in a significant loss/damage or major injury i.e. broken bone or other injury which results in person being taken to hospital for treatment)

High risk (something which may result in extensive damage, multiple or major injuries or death.)