

General Risk Assessment

Site Risk Assessment: Oakfield Forest School Area

Hazard / Risk	Persons at Risk?	Initial Risk Rating	Normal Control Measures	Additional Control Measures <i>Ensure these are considered and amended before any individual activity is undertaken.</i>	Residual Risk Rating
Falling Deadwood – minor to serious injury	Adults and children	Medium / Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-activity visit by forest school leader and staff/helpers to identify areas to avoid. • Remove hanging dead wood. • On site assessment. 	Cordon off area to and avoid use of that area until hazard removed.	Low
Low branches, minor injury - scratches, stings.	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check pathways prior to visits. • Remind children of risks and brief on avoiding low branches. • Identify areas to avoid. 		Low
Roots, stumps and logs, trips and falls-	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check pathways prior to visits. • Remind children of risks and brief on trip hazards. • Remove hazards on main pathways 		Low
Brambles / nettles - minor injury - scratches, stings	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate clothing and footwear is worn. 		Low

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Fungi / berries – poisoning,	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform all children not to pick or eat berries, plants or fungi.. • Forest School practitioners able to recognise common poisonous and stinging plants. • Participants taught to recognise and avoid potentially dangerous common plants e.g. stinging nettles. • Forest School practitioners trained in Outdoor First Aid 	If there are children within the group who are known to put things in their mouths supervise closely.	Low
Stings and Bites – allergic reaction	Adults and children	Low	<p>Ensure appropriate clothing and footwear is worn by attendees at all times.</p> <p>Check area for bee or wasp nests and avoid,</p> <p>First aid available on site,</p> <p>In the event of anaphylactic shock seek medical aid (999)</p> <p>.</p>	If children who are known to have allergic reactions are on site carry appropriate medicine or Epi pen.	Low
Litter – minor injury	Adults and children		Bin bags available on site. Correct places to put litter and other general waste whilst in forest school identified. Children to inform adults if they come across litter on site.		
Animal faeces - contamination	Adults and children	Low	Check site regularly. If present adult to remove and discard safely		Low
Uneven pathways / floor surfaces – trips and falls	Adults and children	Low	Ensure correct footwear and clothing is worn at all times by all attendees.		Low

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Damage to boundary fences, Risk of children straying from site, unauthorised persons entering the site, dogs entering the site.	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site boundaries checked on regular basis by site manager. • Site boundaries checked by Forest School Leader before sessions. <p>In the event of the boundary being damaged and allowing access:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporarily secure site. • Keep children away from area. • Monitor. • Check site for additional risks that may have occurred as a result of the damage. For example increased litter, animal faeces etc. and deal with appropriately. 		

Weather Risk Assessment

Hazard / Risk	Persons at Risk?	Initial Risk Rating	Normal Control Measures	Additional Control Measures <i>Ensure these are considered and amended before any individual activity is undertaken.</i>	Residual Risk Rating
Weather conditions – various: too hot -sunburn, heat exhaustion, too cold - hyperthermia, too wet - hypothermia,	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check local weather conditions and forecast prior to going on site. • Brief participants and staff on appropriate clothing, footwear, 		Low

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			<p>dependent upon weather conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing / footwear check before going on to site • Children to use sun cream and sun hats as per school policy • Provide temporary shade or rain cover. • In the event of severe weather stop session and move indoors. 		
<p>High Winds- potential damage to trees and standing structures. Possible injury from falling branches, debris in eyes</p>	<p>Adults and children</p>	<p>Medium / Low</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check local weather conditions and forecast prior to going on site • Stop session if winds become excessive and loose branches/trees become dislodged or if they look unstable. • Avoid areas with standing deadwood. • Dismantle temporary shelters which may become hazard. • Following high winds check for fallen trees, canopy for hanging timber and the integrity of any standing structures. 		

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General Welfare Risk Assessment

Hazard / Risk	Persons at Risk?	Initial Risk Rating	Normal Control Measures	Additional Control Measures <i>Ensure these are considered and amended before any individual activity is undertaken.</i>	Residual Risk Rating
Inappropriate footwear and clothing. Slips, trips and snagging. Risk of hypothermia sun burn etc.	Adults and children	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants advised before starting Forest School sessions with regard to suitable clothing and footwear. • Before going on site participants checked. • On site advice with respect to particular activities, for example, fastening open coats when using bow saw etc. 	School Sun Safety Policy	Low
General health and welfare	Adults and children	Medium / Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure medical needs for each child are known liaising with class teacher. • Use individual risk assessment form to ensure that they are aware of any allergies/medical considerations. • Carry any inhalers / medicines as indicated on individual medical plans. 		Low
Emotional / behavioural management.	Children	Medium / Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure any existing care plans are followed. • Use individual risk assessment form. • Discuss individual needs with class teacher prior to going on site. • Inform group as appropriate. 	Positive Handling (Restraint of Pupils) Policy – In the event of a pupil having to be restrained staff would be expected to follow this policy.	Low