

Site Risk Assessment

Location: St Monica's Catholic Primary School Orchard.

Academic year 2022-2023

	Hazard	Harm	People at risk	Probability (1-5)	Severity (1-5)	Rating (P x S) 1-15	Existing preventative measures or measures needed	Who will do it? When?
1	Brambles and stinging nettles	Sting or small grazes from brambles/nettles.	All people on session	3.5	1	3.5	Children to bring and wear jogging bottoms and long sleeves during sessions. Cut back stinging nettles before start of session.	TM to clear once per half term. KD, MF, SW, LPS and JJ to cut back day before sessions start.
2	Animals and insects	Bitten or stung by small animal.	All people on session	2	4	8	Observe forest for bee and wasp nests. Ensure epi-pens are brought to session where required.	TM, KD, MF, SW, LPS and JJ to check on a continuous basis.
3	Poisonous berries	Allergies and reactions as a result of touching or ingestion.	Children, young more at risk	1	4	4	Clearly explain rules and regulations to children, in particular with respect to the dangers in the system. Ensure children closely observed.	KD, MF, SW, LPS, and JJ to inspect forest, all teaching staff to contribute to educating children about risks and effects of poisonous berries and plants.
4	Uneven ground	Falls, cuts, bruises, sprains and breaks.	All people on session	3	1.5	4.5	Allow children to explore terrain at the start of session to develop familiarisation.	KD, MF, SW, LPS and JJ to model and discuss how to explore an area safely at the start of session.

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5	Low lying branches	Scratches or injury caused by bumping into branches.	All people on session	2	2.5	5	Inspect site before the session begins. Foster an environment where communication and respect for each other is encouraged.	KD, MF, SW, LPS and JJ to check site the day before session.
6	Obstructions/trip hazards	Falls, cuts, bruises, sprains and breaks.	All people on session	3.5	1.5	5.25	Remove obvious obstructions from area, keeping pathways clear. Children to inform FS leader of hazards.	TM to clear paths each half term. KD, MF, SW, LPS and JJ to clear obstructions before sessions.
7	Falling deadwood	Head injury – concussion; cuts; bumps.	All people on session	2	4	8	Check canopy level before session and after high winds.	KD, MF, SW, LPS and JJ to check canopy before session starts.
Activities								
	Hazard	Harm	People at risk	Probability (1-5)	Severity (1-5)	Rating (P x S) 1-15	Existing preventative measures or measures needed	Who will do it? When?
Blind Trail	Walking into objects	Head injury	All people on session	2	4	8	Briefing to explain how to lead a person safely, communicate effectively, and identify danger/risks. Check for hazards before activity.	Forest Leader, and all adults on session.
	Uneven ground	Trip or slip	All people on session	2	3		Briefing to explain how to lead a person safely, communicate effectively, and identify danger/risks.	Forest Leader, and all adults on session.

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							Check for hazards before activity.	
	Blindfold tied too tight	Headache/ discomfort	All people on session	3	1	3	Blindfold on elasticated string. Explanation of how to adjust blindfold.	Leader to demonstrate and check at start of session.
Exploring the forest	Lifting materials	Muscle strain	All people on session	1	1	1	Demonstration of how to lift with correct form (ie bend at knees rather than back). Encourage group to ask for help. All adults to use correct technique.	Forrest Leader to model correct technique at start of session. All adults to monitor throughout session.
	Carrying sticks	Scratches	All people on session	3	1	3	Adults to be alert. Explanation and demonstration to group about correct method of carrying sticks.	Forrest leader to explain and demonstrate. All adults to monitor throughout session.
Using fires	Climbing trees	Falls, cuts, sprains, bruises, breakages Concussions	All people on session	2	3	6	Clear instructions before session starts. Check for rotting deadwood due to risk of collapse.	Forest Leader.
	Starting the fire	Burns	All people on session	2	2	4	Leader to supervise fire lighting. Group to be shown correct method to light fires with reinforcement each session.	Forest Leader.
	Slipping/tripping when fire alight	Burns	All people	1	4	4	Fire pit constructed by leader. Maintain safe	Forest Leader.

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			on session				distance between fire and children. Group taught how to stand and move around (not through) area. Ensure area clear of hazards.	
	Fire spreading	Burns. Fire in forest	All people on session	1	4	4	Fire pit placement and soil type considered during construction. Burning sticks should not be removed from the fire. Water bucket to be kept by fire at all times. Fire to be fully extinguished before leaving site.	Forest Leader.
	Hot equipment/ water	Burns or scalds	All people on session	2	4	8	Implements provided to remove hot items from fire. Leader to demonstrate safe practice. Maximum of four at one time.	Forest Leader.
Using tools	Unsafe use	Injury	All people on session	2	4	8	Tool safety briefing at the beginning of each session. Demonstration (and enforcement) of correct glove use. Close supervision by adults.	Forest Leader.
	Unsafe storage	Injury	All people	1	4	4	Tools kept sheathed or safely secured when not in use. Tools kept in box to	Forest Leader.

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			on session				and from site. Group briefed on safe and secure storage during session.	
	Equipment failure	Injury	All people on session	1	4	4	Leader to ensure equipment is stored and maintained effectively.	Forest Leader.