

Forest School

No	Hazard	Initial			Existing Control Measures	Residual			Additional Controls
		Severity	Probability	Risk		Severity	Probability	Risk	
1	Event (Slips, Trips, Falls)	5	3	15	- All events planned ahead of arrival. - Adequate supervision during events. - All equipment used is child friendly to minimise chance of injury. - Safety gear supplied where required. - Equipment is inspected prior to use by supervising staff. - Area is checked by staff for slip, trip and fall hazards before event. - First aid is available.	5	1	5	
2	Cuts, Bumps, Bruises and Abrasions	3	3	9	- Equipment in good condition. - First aid available. - Supervision at all times. - Area checked by staff for any objects that could cause harm before event and removed.	3	2	6	
3	Welfare	3	2	6	- Adequate toilet facilities on site. - Refreshments available.	3	1	3	
4	Unauthorised access to the premises <i>Staff could suffer severe personal injury or worse as a result of trespassers or unauthorised personnel gaining access to working areas</i>	3	4	12	- Adequate fences surround the area. - Security gates are locked during games events. - Access keys are controlled by the caretakers and employees - Staff are in area at all times.	3	2	6	

5	Environmental hazards	3	3	9	• Drinks are available on site. • Sun cream is available for infants. • Weather is monitored before the event. • Children without the correct clothing for the events will not be allowed to take part.	3	2	6	
	Blind Folding Activity								
6	Tying the blindfold too tight	2	2	4	• Blindfold to be made of soft material to prevent injuries • Ask children if blindfold is comfortable • No double knotting of blindfold	2	1	2	
7	Walking into an object or tree	2	4	8	• Staff to shadow blindfolded children • Area checked prior to activity being carried out • Staff in vicinity to assist children	2	1	2	
8	Trips, cuts and falls	2	4	8	• Staff to shadow blindfolded children • Area checked prior to activity carried out • Dynamic Risk Assessment of site carried out and any hazard removed • First aider and first aid kit available	2	1	2	
	Collecting Natural Materials								
9	Lifting materials	3	2	6	• Lifting procedures implemented, over seen by trained member of staff • Children only to lift items which are of low risk	3	1	3	
10	Insects and Plants	2	4	8	• Avoid areas that contain stinging plants and insects • First aider in place and first aid kit available • Check area for wasp nests	2	1	2	
11	Litter and debris	2	4	8	• The area has been risk assessed and daily Risk Assessment has taken place with debris removed • Instruct children not to pick up any discarded needles or glass etc.	2	1	2	

12	Dog faeces	3	3	9	- Daily Risk Assessment has been carried out and faeces removed. - Areas with high number of dog walkers avoided - Hands to be washed if contact with dog or cat faeces	3	1	3	
13	Lifting and swinging sticks	3	4	12	Children are shown how to carry stick, reminded throughout the activity	3	1	3	
14	Fungus	3	3	9	Areas with high numbers of fungi will not be used. Children made aware of danger and given procedures if they do come into contact with fungi	3	1	3	
15	Toxic plants	3	3	9	- Forest School Leader to research site for any areas where toxic plants are found. Area will not be used. - Children informed not to eat any berries, mushrooms etc. - First aider and first aid kit available at all times	3	1	3	
	General Welfare and Weather								
16	Weather	2	3	6	- Leader to be aware of daily weather report. - To liaise with Head Teacher to decide if visit goes ahead in woods or takes place at nursery	2	1	2	
17	High winds	2	3	6	Activities will take place in nursery setting.	2	1	2	
18	Inappropriate footwear and clothing	2	4	8	- Parents and visiting adults are given information leaflet detailing appropriate clothing. - This is reinforced verbally. - Children are provided with waterproof clothing - Footwear checked prior to visit	2	2	4	

19	General health	3	4	12	• Forest School Leader to ensure safety and welfare of group. • Provide hot/cool drinks. • Parents to provide lunch box if forest school is off-site • Forest School Leader to ensure all medication is taken to the activity area and returned to Nursery • First aider and kit in place	3	2	6	
20	The sun	4	2	8	• Parents and visiting adults are provided with leaflet detailing appropriate clothing. • Permission will be requested for adults to apply sun cream on children. • Hats with neck protection will be provided	4	1	4	
21	Medical	4	3	12	• Forest School Leader ensures all consent forms returned. • If no consent the child cannot take part in the activity. • List of all medical conditions, medication taken and returned to setting and consent gained to administer medication	4	1	4	
22	Accident or health issues	4	3	12	• Forest School Leader is a Trained First Aider (outdoor). First aid kit to be checked regularly. • All staff to carry mobiles, preferably on different networks	4	1	4	
	Kelly Kettle								
23	lighting of Kelly Kettle	4	4	16	• All staff and children aware of fire safety instructions and safe use of circle fire • First aider in place and first aid kit	4	1	4	
24	Kelly Kettle falling over, spilling hot liquid and risk of ground catching light	4	4	16	• Weather to be assessed, activity not carried out in high winds. • Kelly kettle to be used on smooth ground • Children kept at a distance	4	1	4	

25	Forest School Leader harmed during fire lighting	4	2	8	- Fire gloves to be worn - First aid kit available	4	1	4	
26	Injury from steam	4	2	8	- Ensure all appropriate first aid and safety equipment - Keep children away from the steam to avoid risk of injury	4	1	4	
	Pen Knife								
27	Fingers cut by blade	4	4	16	- Children are shown how to use the knives correctly and safely. - Adequate supervision at all times allowing for children who require extra help or supervision i.e. 1.1. - First aider in place and first aid kit	4	1	4	
28	Injury during pen knife transportation	4	4	16	- All pen knives kept in sheaths when not being used - Staff aware of how to carry pen knife - Pen knife to be kept on site when not in use and in a locked area	4	1	4	
29	Tool slipping when in use	3	4	12	- Tool maintenance keeps pen knife sharp and useable. - No gloves to prevent slipping - Keep children away to prevent accidental accidents - Staff aware of how to use pen knife	3	1	3	
30	Pen knife storage during session	4	4	16	- Knives have tethers on them to hang in suitable position off the floor - Knives are counted "out" and "in"	4	1	4	
31	Pen knife blade snapping	3	2	6	- Regular and effective maintenance of tools - Regular inspection in place - Reputable suppliers of pen knives used	3	1	3	
	Potato Peeler (Carver)								
32	Injury transportation	3	4	12	- Staff to hand children carvers once seated and after the tool talk - Staff to understand procedures	3	1	3	

33	Tool slipping when in use	3	5	15	Staff to ensure children are the correct distance away from each other (arm's length) to avoid contact in case of slipping	3	2	6	
34	Carver coming in contact with another child	3	5	15	Staff to ensure children are correct distance away from each other (arm's length) in case of slipping	3	2	6	
35	Carver storage during session	3	4	12	- Staff keep carvers at all times when not in use. - Carvers are counted "out" and "in".	3	1	3	
36	Children cutting finger when carving	3	3	9	Children to wear safety gloves on both hands	3	1	3	
Rope & String Activities									
37	Visibility	2	2	4	- Rope that is used to create boundaries will be brightly coloured - Children and staff will be made aware of rope. Extra markers may be added	2	1	2	
38	Ropes	2	2	4	- Gloves to be worn by all in activities involving pulling heavy rope - Staff to monitor and control activities involving rope	2	1	2	
39	Trip	2	2	4	Ropes used will be brightly coloured	2	1	2	
40	Entanglement Catching neck	3	2	6	Staff aware of safety procedures when using rope	3	1	3	
41	Pulleys failing	4	2	8	- All equipment checked and meet Health & Safety standards - Checked before use and checked by competent persons	4	1	4	
Water Activities and Pond Dipping									
42	Water	5	3	15	- When walking past water, children should remain with a key adult and hold hands - Supervision at all times - First aider and first aid kit available	5	1	5	

43	Standing water	5	2	10	- Water is assessed by the forest school leader. - Access to the pond is restricted if blue green algae is present.	5	1	5	
44	Getting wet,	3	2	8	- The forest school leader will check the weather and take appropriate clothing and equipment with them. - Children to be taken back indoors if too wet or showing signs of hypothermia	4	1	4	
45	Pond dipping	5	3	15	- Pond dipping will be led by the forest school leader. - Staff will keep children away from water's edge	5	1	5	
46	Unauthorised access	5	4	20	- The Pond area is fenced off and gates are closed and locked when not in use. - Clear signage should be used at the access point to the pond.	5	1	5	
47	Deep water and water's edge	5	4	20	- Access to the pond is restricted by means of a fence and gate. - The pond should be shallow enough for staff to wade into. - Edges that are open for access for pond dipping should be gently sloping or flat and well drained.	5	1	5	
	Bill Hook								
48	Injury during bill hook transportation	3	3	9	- All bill hooks kept in sheaths when not being used - Ensure staff understand how to carry tool correctly.	3	1	3	
49	Tool slipping when in use	4	4	16	- Tool maintenance keeps bill hook sharp and useable. No gloves to prevent slipping - Ensure staff and children understand how to position tool correctly and ensure if they do slip it will not come into contact with anyone.	4	2	8	
50	Bill hook bouncing off	3	3	9	Tool maintenance keeps bill hook sharp and useable. No gloves to prevent slipping	3	1	3	

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60	Travelling/Walking with loppers	3	3	9	- Keep in tool bag, safety locks on if applicable. - Staff to take anything from the bag. - If carrying loppers around the site, one handle to be tucked into the armpit, other handle by elbow with the jaws facing down. - Walking secateurs to be carried in the locked position, held at the blade end.	3	1	3	
61	Using the loppers	4	4	16	- Demonstrate the proper use of the tool, blade uppermost to ensure visibility. - Loppers- Standing over the brash, feet wider than hip width for stability and to avoid cutting toes, cut the desired wood. - After use place back in bag - Secateurs, hold any brash at least a hands width from the intended cut line with a gloved hand, blade uppermost to see cut.	4	2	8	
62	Before and after activity	4	2	8	To ensure tools are sharpened and maintained properly, a rusty blunt tool is far more likely to cause an accident.	4	1	4	
	Fire Pit								
63	Lighting the fire	4	4	16	- Fire to be lit at arm's length - No accelerant to be used - Firelighters ideally to be used - Keep pupils away whilst lighting the fire - Pupils to be informed of fire safety	4	2	8	
64	Hot food	3	3	9	- Pupils will be reminded that the food will be hot and to allow it to cool before eating etc. - Pupils are informed of fire safety	3	1	6	
65	Falling into the fire	4	4	16	- Pupils are reminded to walk around the fire pit carefully and no running allowed - Seating is situated at least 2 metres away from the pit	4	2	8	

66	Areas setting alight	4	4	16	• The fire pit will be sited away from potential hazards • Staff will check the area prior to lighting the fire pit • Only a small amount of wood is collected, enough to keep the fire alight for the duration of the session.	4	2	8	
67	After the session or putting the fire out	4	4	16	• The forest school leader will ensure the fire is extinguished completely before leaving the area. • Fires are not left unattended. • A water bucket or extinguisher is kept close by. • Wood used to feed fires are stored in a safe place to prevent deliberate fires being started.	4	2	8	