RISK BENEFIT ASSESSMENT- Mud Kitchen

**Low risk- Something resulting in a minor injury eg a scratch or a bruise**

**Medium risk- something resulting in significant loss/ damage or an injury such as a broken bone which requires hospital treatment**

**High risk- something that results in extensive loss/ damage, multiple injuries or death**

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| Location/ Activity: | Stoneydelph Forest School | Date: | December 2021 |
| FS Leader: | Mrs J Parry | Review Date: | December 2022 |

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| Activity | How will young people BENEFIT from the activity? | Possible Hazards | Overall risk ratings  Low/ Med/ High | Who is at risk? | Precautions in place to reduce risk of injury | Risk rating following precautions |
| Adding of water to the Forest Floor | The lifting of heavier objects will help participants build on their proprioception and give opportunities to build independence | Straining of muscles  Slips, trips and falls  In the muddy area | Low | Children/ adults | Model safe lifting with bent knees and straight backs when adults carrying water containers and heavier objects  Ensure children pour water in designated area to limit damage to the environment and soaking themselves  Remind children of safe movements in the muddy area | Low |
| Collection of leaves from the floor | Leaves are a sustainable varied natural resource, widely available for use in a range of craft activities | Animal faeces and sharp objects found in leaf litter, causing cuts, grazes, scratches and abrasions.  Slips, trips and falls | Medium | Children/ adults | Site safety sweep to look for dangers in leaf litter  Vigilant adult supervision as deeper layers of leaves explored  Any animal faeces found to be removed immediately by supervising adult | Low |
| Picking of growing leaves and flowers | Flowers and freshly picked leaves add to the creative opportunities offered by the collection of fallen leaves | Thorns or minibeasts on plants  ‘Over picking’ causing damage to plants | Low | Children/ adults | Encourage children to only take up to ’10 caterpillar bites’ of a living plant  Adult support to look for thorns or minibeasts before picking leaves or flowers | Low |
| Use of mud kitchen resources such as baking trays etc | Role play is important to children’s imaginative and creative development | Cuts/ grazes from metal objects | Low | Children/ adults | Forest leader to thoroughly check all resources before each session  Adult supervision to ensure safe usage eg. no throwing  Where possible, items packed away in shed to minimise rusting | Low |

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