



RISK ASSESSMENT – Site

Low risk – a minor injury e.g. scratch or bruise

Medium risk – significant loss/damage or injury such as broken bones (requires hospital trip)

High risk – extensive loss, multiple injuries or death

Location/Activity:	Stoneydelph Forest School	Date:	January 2025
FS Leader:	Miss Sarah Kidner	Review date:	January 2026

Hazard	Who is at risk?	Risk	Potential level of risk:	Control measures and who is responsible for actions	Level of risk after control	Risk benefit
Mud Kitchen	Adults/ Children	Slip, trips, falls, cuts, grazes, scratches, abrasions, bruises	Medium	FSL to site sweep the woodland area before every session FSL to check all resources before each session Dispose of broken resources Encourage the children to pour water in designated area Ensure hands are washed after touching and before eating/drinking.	Low	Role play is important to children's imaginative and creative development.
Music Area	Adults/ Children	Slip, trips, falls, cuts, abrasions, bumps, bruises	Medium	FSL to site sweep the woodland area before every session FSL to check all resources before each session Dispose of broken resources Encourage the children to be aware of others around them when playing in the music area Only small sticks/wooden spoons etc to be used for playing music	Low	Making musical sounds boost executive brain function, improve memory and strengthens speech process.
Mud area	Adults/ Children	Slip, trips, falls, cuts, grazes, scratches, abrasions, bruises, eye irritation	Medium	FSL to site sweep the woodland area before every session Learners to be aware of any hazards that could cause slip, trip or fall Children to follow behaviour policy Mud being splashed in eyes/mouth Water available for drinking and washing Adult supervision when running and jumping in the mud area	Low	Improvement to hand-eye coordination, motor skills, mental and physical development

Creative area	Adults/ Children	Slip, trips, falls, cuts, grazes, scratches, abrasions	Medium	FSL to site sweep the woodland area before every session FSL to check all resources before each session Provide resources appropriate to age and ability of the learners Adult supervision if necessary Learners encouraged to pick up unused resources Learners encouraged to share resources Follow the collection of natural materials risk assesment	Low	Promotes self-esteem, creativity, confidence and independence. Enables risk-taking, child-centred learning, exploration and play.
Trip hazards – uneven ground, muddy/ wet ground, natural materials	Adults/ Children	Slip, trips, falls, cuts, grazes, scratches, abrasions, bruises	High	FSL to site sweep the woodland area before every session Remove obvious trip hazards before every session Instructions to walk carefully and to check where you're walking. No running especially when ground is wet and on uneven ground. Appropriate clothing – long trousers, long sleeved tops and closed toe footwear Encourage the children to put items away when not in use	Medium	Negotiating the terrain means the learners become more aware of their surroundings. Core strength and coordination is improved.
Animal faeces	Adults/ Children	Stand, touch, pick up, illness	Medium	FSL to site sweep the woodland area before every session Ensure hands are washed if came into contact with animal faeces and before eating/drinking. Learners to report any faeces found and it to be removed immediately by an adult	Low	Identification of animals by their faeces. A good basis for learning conversations.
Harmful Litter	Adults/ Children	Cuts, scratches, infections, allergic reactions	Medium	FSL to site sweep the woodland area before every session Educate the children on dangerous litter and to report to an adult if found (do not pick up) during the session Learners only encouraged to pick up litter using a litter picker Qualified First aider and fully stocked first aid kit. Ensure hands are washed after touching and before eating/drinking.	Low	Learners will build up an awareness of potential dangers. Responsibility of maintaining and preserving their Forest School area.

Toxic plants/ brambles/ Nettles/ fungi	Adults/ Children	Illness, stings, scratches, splinters, poisoning, reactions to skin	High	Adult aware of the site and where plants are located Show the children the location Explanation what could happen if the learner/adult came into contact or ate them. Ensure hands are washed after touching and before eating/drinking. Qualified First aider and fully stocked first aid kit. Identification cards of a range of flora and fauna	Medium	Biodiversity and good awareness and identification of a range of flora and fauna.
Animal bites and stings	Adults/ Children	Stings, bites, irritation to skin, allergic reaction	High	Adult aware of the site and monitor nests etc Appropriate clothing – long trousers, long sleeved tops and closed toe footwear. Adults aware of allergies and medication is taken to the site Qualified First aider and fully stocked first aid kit. Identification cards of a range of insects/animals within the site	Medium	Opportunity for children to become more able to tolerate and learn about a variety of insects and animals.
Structural damage to trees, low branches	Adults/ Children	Slips, trips, falls, cuts, scratches, abrasions, bumps, serious injury	High	FSL to site sweep the woodland area before every session Cut back any dangerous branches Call Blooming Gardens if structure is too dangerous Section off area if far enough away to continue the FS session (school field) FSL to show and talk to the learners about the sectioned area and not to enter or go too close. Ensure Blooming Gardens are regularly on site and to check tree health	Medium	Learners will be aware of their surroundings. Trees provide places to climb, improving spatial awareness and core strength

	Signature	Date
Forest School leader		
Head Teacher		
Forest School Assistant		