



RISK ASSESSMENT – Mallet/Bodger



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
Correct use of Mallet/Bodger	Adults/children	Cuts, grazes, broken fingers, bruises	Medium	Tool checked to be in good working order by FSL before use Check area before using the Loppers Clear the area of any debris that can cause a slip, trip or fall. FSL - Tool talk and safe working distance 1.5m Use the Mallet/Bodger for splitting/cleaving wood by tapping a knife/Billhook. Kneel on one knee - The knee on the ground being the right knee if the tool user is right handed, left if the tool user is left handed. Don't put fingers in the way of the Mallet/Bodger Use a glove at FS leaders discretions (non – tool)	Low	Learners will understand the correct purpose and method on how to safely use and handle the Mallet/Bodger. Managing their own risks and make safer choices for themselves and others.
Handling Mallet/Bodger	Adults/children	Cuts, grazes, broken fingers, bruises	Medium	FSL- Tool talk and safe working distance 1.5m Ratio - adult to child 1:1. Qualified First aider and fully stocked first aid kit. Don't put fingers in the way of the Mallet/Bodger Use a glove at FS leaders discretions	Low	Learners will develop their fine and gross motor skills. Producing woodland crafts.
Carrying Mallet/Bodger	Adults/children	Slips, trips, falls, cuts, grazes, bruises	Medium	All to carry the Mallet/Bodger by your side. No running while holding the Mallet/Bodger. Do not swing the Mallet/Bodger.	Low	

Passing Mallet/ Bodger	Adults/ children	Broken bones, bruises	Medium	Adults/children to pass the Mallet/Bodger by the handle or place down for another person use. Do not swing or throw.	Low	Learners will have the opportunity to select, collect and return their own tool in the correct way. This will give them a deeper sense of ownership over their activity and the safety and risks.
Cleaning and Storing Mallet/ Bodger	Adults/ children	Broken bones, bruises	Medium	Count mallets in and out. Store in a dry and clean tool bag/box Maintenance: Keep clean and dry Inspect for wear and tear Dispose safely if unfit for purpose	Low	

	Signature	Date
Forest School leader		
Head Teacher		
Forest School Assistant		