



RISK ASSESSMENT – Use of Rope/Cord



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
Loops of rope	Adults/children	Slips, trips, falls, cuts, grazes, abrasions, bruises	Medium	FSL to demonstrate knots using ropes Ropes to be brightly coloured Loose rope tied up and not dangling Ropes removed and counted in at the end of the session	Low	Being able to use a rope or cord in a variety of ways gives the children ownership over their learning.
Ropes tied between trees at neck height	Adults/children	Rope burns, strangulation, grazes, bruises	High	Ropes to be brightly coloured Do not tie rope at neck height Ropes removed and counted in at the end of the session Adult to advise and monitor where required	Medium	Tying knots and securing ropes, builds on developing the learner's skills.
Low ropes during loose parts play etc	Adults/children	Slips, trips, falls, cuts, grazes, abrasions, bruises	High	Ropes to be brightly coloured Ropes removed and counted in at the end of the session Adult to monitor and assist with repositioning	Medium	Allowing the learner's to secure branches and traps independently increases confidence and self-esteem.
Using ropes and cords to secure items	Adults/children	Rope burns, grazes, bruises	Medium	Adult supervision and assistance if necessary Gloves if pulling a rope Adult to advise and monitor where required	Low	

Carrying and Storing ropes/ cords	Adults/ children	Slips, trips, falls, Rope burns, grazes, bruises	Medium	Count ropes/cords in and out. Store in a dry and clean shed Maintenance: Keep clean and dry Inspect for wear and tear Dispose safely if unfit for purpose	Low	Learners will have the opportunity to select, collect and return their own equipment in the correct way. This will give them a deeper sense of ownership over their activity and the safety and risks.
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	Signature	Date
Forest School leader		
Head Teacher		
Forest School Assistant		