

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR AN GARDEN

Location looked at: Playground

Date of risk assessment: - August 2016 - Review date - February 2017

Hazard (something with the potential to cause harm)	What could go wrong?	Who may be harmed?	Is the risk still high, medium or low?	What extra controls need to be put in place?	By when?	By whom?
Floor	Hard floor and in a few places the tarmac is cracked and slightly raised. Slip, trip or falls could cause injuries.	Children, staff, parents or visitors	High	Encourage children to walk when they go outside. Cold compresses ready in fridge in case of accident.	Every day	Classes who use this area
Fences	Children touching the fences could get splinters in their hands. Children may try and climb the fences The metal chain link fence can be climbed and some of the top connections have metal edges which may cause scratches if the children climb up on these.	Children Children Children	Medium Medium Medium	Staff to discourage children from touching fences or using them for support. Children discourage children from climbing fences. Children discourage children from climbing fences. Monitor the fence for sharp areas and cover if found.	Everyday Everyday Everyday	Classes who use this area
Front gates into car park	The children might open the gates and get out into the car park. They may get lost or might get to the main road at the end of the	Children	Medium	The gates have bottom bolts on them. These need to be put down at all times and health and safety checks to be completed to ensure they are locked. The children	Everyday	All staff

	drive.			should always be discouraged from going near or trying to open the gates. Children must be supervised at all times.		
Flowerbeds	There may be litter in the flowerbeds which may include items such as glass or shape stones. There may also be weeds that grow that are poisonous to touch and these may cause harm to the children.	Children	Medium	The staff to ensure that outside checks are completed every morning and afternoon that the beds are thoroughly checked for any litter or plants that may cause harm. Gardeners are also asked to check the beds for plants that need to be removed.	Everyday	All staff
	The edges of the flower beds are concrete and if a child falls on one of these this may cause a serious injury.	Children	Medium	Staff to encourage children to not run near the flower beds. Have a cold compress in the fridge for any injuries that may happen.	Everyday	All staff
Sand tray	Children could get sand in their eyes.	Children	High	Children to follow rules and behaviour strategies regarding throwing sand. Eye wash available in case it is needed.	Everyday	All classes
	Animal faeces in the sand	Children	Medium	Outdoor checks are completed before children play in this area. This will pick up any problems. The sand pit also has a cover on it to ensure animals do not get in.	Everyday	All classes

Shade from the sun	The children and staff do not have enough shade in this area and therefore get sun burnt	Children and Staff	High	Extra shading. Gazebo's and sun shades to be put up first thing in the morning. The nursery supply sun cream for the children.	During hot days	All staff
Shade from the rain	The children and staff are not protected from rain and therefore get cold and wet.			Nursery provides poncho's for the children to wear and wet suits for younger children. Parents asked to provide hats, coats and other warm clothing.	During wet days	All staff
The Look Out and climbing equipment	Children may fall off of the climbing equipment or trip over them and hurt themselves. These may become slippery in wet weather.	Children	Medium	Staff to always ensure that children are supervised on play equipment such as the Look Out and the climbing blocks. During checks if they staff notice that the areas are wet they should inform all members of staff of dangers. Cold compress to be available in fridge at all times.	Everyday	All staff
Shed	There is an area behind the shed that is accessible to children as there is a gap. The children could get behind here and hide. Staff may get concerned that they are lost and children may hurt themselves.	Children and staff	Medium	Staff to supervise children in this area at all times and ensure that they are aware of this matter. They should discourage the children at all times from going behind this area by explaining the reasons why. Alternatively these areas should be fenced off by equipment so that the temptation for the children is not there.	Everyday	All staff

Puddles	When it rains some areas for the playground become large puddles and children may fall in these or swallow pools may form putting the children at risk of drowning. They may also slip.	Children	Medium	Staff to complete outside checks and consider the use of this area if the puddles contain too much swallow water. If so use other areas.	When it rains	All staff
Animals	As this is a rural area there are a lot of animals that go through the gardens areas. These may leave faeces or other bodily fluids or they may leave remains of other animals. They may also get in or under sheds or fences and create holes.	Children and staff	Medium	Child doing checks should look for faeces etc, and remove it using gloves and protective clothing if found. They should also disinfect and wash any items if on.	Everyday	All staff
				Staff should check sheds etc for animals and highlight holes or gaps if seen, during checks, to the manager.	Everyday	All staff
Metal fencing	The metal fences have metal ends to them and at times if children play next to them may cause scratches.	Children and staff	Medium	Staff will monitor the fence to ensure that any sharp areas are covered and that children do not play near them where they may get hurt.		
Storage boxes	The children may climb into the boxes and get trapped inside. In high winds these box lids may be blown open and cause them to break if	Children and staff	Low	Staff will ensure that the boxes are locked at all times so that the children cannot climb in them. This will also prevent the lids from	Every day	All staff

	not properly secured. Toys may get wet and broken if not stored properly.			blowing away. The toys will be placed in boxes and clean regularly to ensure they are safe and hygienic.		
Wooden trim trail	The trim trail is for climbing and balancing. The children, if unsupervised or unsupported, may fall off of the stepping stones or balance beams and hurt themselves. When it rains this can also become a little slippery, again causing slips.	Children	Medium	Children should always be supervised on this equipment. Age and stage dependant they should also be supported however if children feel able to complete this on their own they should be allowed to. However staff should always be available if needed. In wet weather staff needs to consider if the equipment is suitable and safe to play on.	Every day	All staff
Bungee cords in sheds to hold doors open	When in use the children could hurt or choke on these cords if left at low levels. Also hooks code cause injuries.	Children and staff	Med / high	For staff to ensure that when bungee codes are not in use they are stored safely aware from children's reach on the top shelf. When used on shed's they will be attached high up and children will be discouraged from touching/ swinging/ pulling these codes.	Everyday	All staff
Small curriculum Sheds	The shed doors may get broken in bad weather and winds if they slam. They may	Children, staff and parents	High	Staff will ensure checks are done in the gardens prior to the children accessing the sheds. Each	Everyday	All staff

	<p>also hit a child, parent or staff member They may also get blown over. Children may hide in this sheds and get locked in by other children</p>			<p>shed has bungees ropes inside which allows the doors to be hooked onto a fence so the doors do not blow or swing shut. The sheds are cemented to the ground. All sheds will be checked prior to closing and children will be counted before going inside. It will be a rule that the children do not go in the sheds.</p>		
<p>People coming onto the setting grounds, i.e, unfamiliar faces</p>	<p>People are able to access the nursery gardens via the gate and would be in the grounds without staff knowing. Also they can get in through the gates and access the children.</p>	<p>Children and staff</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>The staff check the front gate at all times to ensure that the gates are locked and the playground is not easily accessible. The staff encourages the children to play away from the gate when outside and staff are always supervising the children and the play areas. Therefore no one is able to access the gardens areas without staff being aware of who is coming on to the premises. If an unfamiliar face is at the gate staff will ask them to remain there and will approach asking why they are present. Staff will</p>	<p>Every day</p>	<p>All staff</p>

				carry walkie talkies and call into office if they are concerned about unfamiliar people at the setting. The office will call the police if necessary .		
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