

# RISK ASSESSMENT FOR AN GARDEN

Location looked at: Paddock 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/ gravel	The labyrinth and are paths are gravel stones. The children may put these in their mouth or throw them. The labyrinth has a felt underlay which when the stones are moved can come up and may cause a trip.	Children	Medium	Discourage the children from putting the stones in their mouths and ensure that younger children are closely supervised in this area. Staff will monitor the labyrinth and inform management through health and safety of any problems.	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	Children  Children	Medium  Medium	Staff to discourage children from touching fences or using them for support.  Children discourage children from climbing fences.	Everyday  Everyday	Classes who use this area
Front gates into playground	This is a small gate with low handle and therefore children can reach it. Also older children would be able to open it. The children might open the gates and get out into the playground and therefore the car	Children	Medium	Health and safety checks must always been completed and the main gate should always have both bolts down. Staff should ensure that children do not play by the gate and are discouraged from trying to open it. The children should always be discouraged from going near	Everyday	All staff

	park. They may get lost or might get to the main road at the end of the drive.			or trying to open the gates. Children must be supervised at all times.		
Heather beds	There may be litter in the heather which may include items such as glass or general rubbish that may have blown into it. 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 heather is thoroughly checked for any litter or plants that may cause harm. Gardeners are also asked to check the heather for plants that need to be removed.	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
Slides/ seesaw and play 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 slides and check the equipment is safe before use.. 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
Bridges	The bridges have a small drop to them and this may cause a younger child to fall off. They also can get slippery in wet weather and this may cause the children or staff to slip and hurt themselves. The children may also try and crawl underneath them.	Children and staff	High	Staff should make a judgement on whether to use the bridges dependant on the weather on the day. They should support children on these bridges and supervise them to ensure they are safe at all times. If the children are trying to crawl underneath the staff should distract and move them away. Cold compress to be available in fridge at all times.	Everyday	All staff
Puddles	When it rains some areas for the paddock become waterlogged and form large puddles. The children may fall in	Children	Medium	Staff to complete outside checks and consider to use off this area if the puddles contain too much swallow	When it rains	All staff

	these or shallow pools may form putting the children at risk of drowning. They may also slip.			water. If so use other areas. If there is shallow pools of water staff should make all classrooms aware of this.		
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	Staff 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.  Staff should check sheds etc for animals and highlight holes or gaps if seen, during checks, to the manager.	Everyday  Everyday	All staff  All staff
Long grass	The long grass may cause the children to trip over and hurt themselves. The children may also hide in it and therefore get lost or left behind. There may also be foreign objects such as litter or animals faeces in it.	Children and staff	Low	The staff count the children before they go out and when they come back in. they count throughout the duration of play you sure that all children are accounted for at all times. Should a child be missing they will remain in this area and search for the child. Checks are completed in this area to ensure that all litter etc is removed before children play.	Everyday	All staff

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 not properly secured. Toys may get wet and broken if not stored properly.	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 blowing away. The toys will be placed in boxes and clean regularly to ensure they are safe and hygienic.	Every day	All staff
Benches and seating	The children may stand and fall off of the benches and seating in the paddock and therefore hurt themselves.	Children	Low	Staff to ensure that the seating and benches are used in the appropriate way. If the children stand on the benches they explain to them that they are for sitting on and carefully sit them down.	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 away 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	Children, staff and parents	High	Staff will ensure checks are done in the gardens prior to the children	Everyday	All staff

	<p>they slam. They may 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>accessing the sheds. Each 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</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>

				are present. Staff will 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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