

Ravensdale Infant and Nursery School
Using Tools Risk Assessment

Location: RINS Devonshire Drive, Mickleover, Derby DE3 9HE			Name: Stacey Hill Level 3 Forest School Leader			Date: 10 Sept 2022 Review: Annually	
Description of activity: Attendees on site engaged in FS activities may use a variety of tools with sharp edges during the programme or session. All tools will be correctly maintained, used in accordance with current safety guidelines and introduced at a suitable time in order to reduce the risk of injury. Some tools may be used by FSL only due to the age, development and experience of younger attendees. A first aid kit will be on hand for each session and FS staff will be trained and current in both Outdoor and Paediatric First Aid.							
Hazard	Harm	People at risk	Probability	Severity	Rating	Measures. (new or existing)	Who is responsible?
Injuries from sharp tools; Bow saw	Serrated cuts from blades on saw. Used to saw anything larger than a 2p piece.	All	2	3	6	Tool inspected prior to use and well maintained. Tool talk given every time used. 1:1 supervision at all times. Introduced at suitable time appropriate to individuals. Kept in suitable storage container and locked away when not in use.	Forest School Leader Site Manager
Sheath knife	Incision and puncture wounds from incorrect use. Risk of catastrophic bleed when used incorrectly. Used for whittling wood and making items from natural materials.	All	2	5	10	All knives inspected prior to use and well maintained. Tool talk given every time used. 1:1 supervision levels at all times. Introduced at suitable time in session. Kept in locked container when not in use.	Forest School Leader Site Manager
Loppers	Potential amputation of fingers from incorrect use. Used for woodland management on sticks smaller than 2p piece.	All	2	4	8	Tool inspected prior to use and well maintained. Tool talk given every time used. 1:1 supervision levels at all times.	Forest School Leader

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						Introduced at suitable time in session. Locked away when not in use.	
Billhook	Potential trauma injury from blades. Used for snedding and brashing bushes.	All	2	4	8	Tool inspected prior to use and well maintained. Introduced at suitable time in session. Stored in locked box.	FSL – Group leader. Not currently on site.
Axe	Potential trauma injury from axe. Potential amputation of fingers from incorrect use. Used for splitting and cleaving wood and rough hewing of materials.	All	2	2	4	Tool inspected prior to use and well maintained. Tool talk given every time used. 1:1 supervision levels at all times. Introduced at suitable time in session. Stored in a locked box. Locked away when not in use.	FSL – Group leader. Not currently on site.
Auger/Bit and Brace/Hand drill	Puncture injury from cutters on auger. Used to drill holes in wood.	All	2	2	4	Tool inspected prior to use and well maintained. Tool talk given every time used. 1:1 supervision levels at all times. Introduced at suitable time in session. Stored in locked box, locked away when not in use.	Forest School Leader
Mallet	Crush or broken bone from incorrect use. Used to baton pieces of wood and place in pegging.	All	2	2	4	Tool inspected prior to use and well maintained. Tool talk given every time used. 1:1 supervision levels at all times.	FSL – Group leader.

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						Introduced at suitable time in session. Kept in FSL activity box. Locked away when not in use.	
Scissors	Cut from blade Incision due to incorrect handling, trip or fall.	All	2	3	6	Tool inspected prior to use and well maintained. Tool talk given every time used. Adult supervision levels at all times. Tool to be used when stationary and kept in activity location . Stored in FSL activity box. Put away when not in use.	Forest School Lead and other school staff.
Peeler (vegetable)	Cut, sliced skin from blade due to incorrect handling and use	All	2	2	4	Tool inspected prior to use and well maintained. Tool talk given every time used. Adult supervision levels at all times (1:2 KS1 1:1 FS1 and 2) Tool to be used when stationary and kept in activity location . Stored in FSL activity box. Put away when not in use.	FS lead and other attending school staff.

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Risk / Benefit analysis

The following benefits have been identified for site usage:

- Developed: Confidence, self-esteem, sense of achievement
- Improved language and communication skills.
- Increased motivation, concentration, and resilience.
- Team work/team building exercises.
- Increased knowledge of tools and uses.
- Increased knowledge of safety procedures when using and handling tools including correct positioning.
- Developed physical skills; gross and fine motor, and hand eye co-ordination
- Developed understanding of how to risk assess and risk manage.
- Promotion of designing, planning and evaluation /reflection.
- Cognitive development, learning how to solving problems.

This risk assessment has been prepared for Forest School outdoor learning. The responsibilities stated are outlined for Go Wild Forest School sessions. During instances where class teachers use the schools outdoor areas, the responsibilities lie with qualified teaching staff and all risk assessments should be read and adhered to. All staff should be aware of personnel on site with up to date First Aid Training. Activities specific to Forest School, should **not** be carried out by non-qualified Forest School staff.

Prepared by –S. Hill – L3 Forest School Leader Agreed by L. Blanchenot (Head Teacher)

Written: September 2022.

Review Date: 5th Sept 2023.

	Probability		Severity	Rating = probability x Severity	
1	Very unlikely	1	Attention needed/ TLC	1-2	Low risk – no further action required.
2	Unlikely	2	First Aid	3-5	Low priority - monitor risks, action as required
3	Possible	3	First Aid/ Send to doctor	6-9	Medium risk – attention required, examine practicality of change.
4	Likely	4	Call emergency services	10-15	A high priority for action.
5	Very likely	5	Multiple injuries/death	16-25	Requires immediate attention and action.