

Site Risk Assessment & General Use of Site by Group (Example)		Reviews			
Task/Operation:	Forest Schools Site and Group Risk Assessment	Next review needed	Date actually reviewed	Changes needed? (Yes/No)	Assessor initials
Group(s) affected:	Forest Schools Leader, Participant pupils, teachers, adult helpers, members of public				
Person(s) undertaking assessment:					
Employee(s) consulted:					
Date of assessment:					

		Before control						After control			DAILY RISK ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST Tick off when checked add any notes		
Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	L	S	R R	Control measures and responsibility <i>FSL (Forest Schools Leader) SA (Supporting Adults) P (Participants)</i>	L	S	RR	DATE	DATE	DATE		
Access to Site													
Roads / tracks / vehicle movements / car park area	Car collision, injury, death	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants made aware of where the vehicle access routes are and site boundaries exclude these areas (FSL, SA) 	1	3	3					
		Before control						After control			DAILY RISK ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST Tick off when checked add any notes		
Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	L	S	R	Control measures and	L	S	RR	DATE	DATE	DATE		

L = Likelihood X S = Severity; RR = Risk Rating

				R	responsibility <i>FSL (Forest Schools Leader) SA (Supporting Adults) P (Participants)</i>						
Access to site continued.											
Roads / tracks / vehicle movements / car park area continued	Car collision, injury, death continued.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care taken when walking to site in line with walk to site risk assessment 						
Boundaries											
Fencing and / or dry stone walls near, in or around site	Unstable toppling injuries, crush injuries, barbed wire, scratch, cuts, bruises, splinters	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitored as part of daily site risk assessment, notified to land owner if risky (FSL) Safety talk to participants not to climb or lean on any fencing or stone walls (FSL, SA) First aid kit, first aiders and first aid procedures to be followed (FSL, SA) 	1	2	2			

Other people											
Approaches from members of public / site rangers or staff	Interference, harassment, abduction	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision ratios maintained (FSL, SA) Emergency police contact details available (FSL, SA) Boundaries to site well established along with signal to meet in designated safe space (FSL, SA) Safety talk to participants in line with procedure for approaches from members of the public as outlined in the risk management statement. (FSL) 	1	3	6			
Walkers / cyclists / horse riders	Staff/Participants knocked over, injury, trampled, broken limbs	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety talk - Participants made aware of where footpath, tracks and bridleways are and exclude from main Forest Schools site (FSL, SA) Adults to remain observant and follow procedures as detailed for members of public above (FSL, SA) First aid procedures followed (FSL, SA) 	1	3	3			

Other people											
Loose Dogs	Bite, disease, distress, injury, phobias	2	3	6	FSL and SA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedure for dealing with loose dogs followed as detailed in risk management statement • Supervision ratios maintained and adults to be observant • Wash/wipe hands if contact with a dog happens • First aid kit, first aider and first aid procedure in place (aware of tetanus injections of participants) • Move participants away from the area. 	1	3	3			
Contractors on site	Plant, machinery, vehicle injuries, falling, crushing, injuries	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land owner notified when group to be on site and reciprocal sharing if any contractors due in the area. • Part of daily site risk assessment check to see if any contractors on site. • Move Forest Schools area away or cancel session. 	1	3	3			

Canopy Layer											
Deadwood overhead / Leaning 'hung' dead wood	Hit in eye, head, crush and impact injuries	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site checked and boundaries established that don't include any of these hazards. (FSL) • Daily site risk assessment to check and move working area, mark out no go areas and/or boundaries accordingly (FSL) • Dangerous trees and/or branches to be reported to land owner and dealt with (removed/felled) FSL report, landowner - manage • Do not use site in high winds • First aid kit, first aider, first aid and emergency procedure to be followed. (FSL, SA) 	1	3	3			
Shrub Layer											
Deadwood hanging / Deadwood standing	Hit in eye, head, crush and impact injuries	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow same procedure as above for incidents in the canopy layer. • May be easier to deal with as part of daily site risk assessment 	1	3	6			

Shrub Layer continued											
Branches at eye level or head height	Hit in face, eyes, cuts, grazes, crush injuries	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety talk to participants to remind of careful movement around site (FSL) • Monitored during daily risk assessment and removal in and around main seating area. (FSL) • First aid kit, first aider and first aid procedure available. (FSL, SA) 	1	2	2			
Field Layer											
Poisonous plants and/or fungi	Sickness, rash, allergic reaction, poisoning	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety talk to participants about types of plants, fungi and their role in woodlands (FSL) • Site checked as part of daily risk assessment and risky areas marked out and notified (FSL) • Careful selection of materials for activities (FSL, P, SA) • Wash and wipe hands before eating and drinking (P, FSL, SA) • First aid kit, first aider, first aid and emergency procedure to be followed. (FSL, SA) 	1	3	3			

Field Layer											
Brambles, stinging nettles, prickly plants, insect bites and stings	Cuts, grazes, splinters, thorns, rash, allergic reaction, stings	3	3	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety talk to participants (FSL) • Careful selection of materials for activities (FSL, SA, P) • Avoidance of any particularly bad areas (FSL, SA, P) • If possible keep the main seating area as clear as possible (incorporate in daily site risk assessment) (FSL). • Consent forms to have details of any known allergies (FSL, SA) • Medication specific to pupils available for any specific reactions and conditions – and school medication policy followed (SA, P) • Awareness made of natural remedies to nettle stings etc. (FSL) • First Aid kit, first aider and first aid procedure to be followed. (FSL, SA) 	2	3	6			

Ground Layer											
Hidden logs, exposed roots, tree stumps or boulders in the grass/ground flora, uneven ground, slopes, field level vegetation, mud	Slips, trips, falls, bumps, injury, cuts, graze	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check as part of daily risk assessment (FSL) • If possible clear major hazards (brambles, logs) to the edge of main seating/clearing area (FSL, SA) • Safety talk and warning to participants to take care (FSL) • First aid kit, first aider and first aid procedure available (FSL, SA) • Major concerns raise with landowner (FSL) 	2	2	4			
Broken glass / rubbish / litter	Trips, cuts, injury, entrapment, disease	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety talk to participants (FSL) • Site checked prior to session as part of daily risk assessment (FSL) • Clearing actions or move to another area in line with rubbish and littering procedure outlined in the risk management statement (FSL, SA, P) • Hands washed/wiped prior to eating or drinking. (FSL, SA, P) 	1	2	2			

Ground Layer continued											
Dog / Animal faeces	Disease, germs, Toxocariasis (from dog faeces)	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site checked and visible evidence cleared as part of daily site risk assessment procedure. (FSL) • Procedure for dealing with dog faeces as detailed in the risk management statement followed (FSL, SA, P) • Hand to be washed/wiped prior to eating/drinking (FSL, SA, P) • First aid kit used for rinsing, washing if necessary (FSL, SA) 	1	3	3			
Ancient lead mines and wells	Fall, bury, trapped in confined space, sprains, breaks	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area surveyed and managed by land owner • Any capped mines and wells excluded from the Forest Schools site area • Participants notified of presence and history of the area and care to be taken. Enforce site boundaries and use of paths elsewhere (FSL, SA) • Check as part of daily site risk assessment. (FSL) 	1	3	3			

Structures											
Shelters / fire area / seating created on site	Collapse – crush or squash injuries, trips, falls, breakages	3	2	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At start of programme no structures are present on site Any structures created during the programme to be checked by FSL as part of daily site risk assessment procedure for security, stability and safety. Any unstable or unsafe structures to be dismantled, repaired / made safe or notified to participants and marked to remind them not to go in, near or on. 	1	2	2			
Weather											
Weather conditions	Hypothermia, hyperthermia, sun burn	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather forecasts checked prior to session (FSL, SA) Weather check and contingency procedure to be followed (FSL, SA) 'Strong breeze' on Beaufort scale or thunderstorm automatic cancellation of woodland based activities Group able to leave site by walking at any time should weather change. (FSL, SA, P) 	1	3	6			

Weather continued											
Weather conditions continued.	Hypothermia, hyperthermia, sun burn continued.				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate clothing to be checked prior to session (waterproof, warm, cool clothing, sun hats, sun cream, shelters, hot/cold drinks etc. rest periods as appropriate) (FSL, SA, P) Some spare clothing available in emergency bag. (FSL) First aider and first aid kit available and procedure to be followed. (FSL, SA) 						
Other											
Animals on site – rats in / near, deer ticks.	Infection from ticks (Lymes disease) Infection from rat urine (Weils Disease) other disease, bugs and hygiene issues	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants to be made aware and told to follow hand washing and hygiene protocols (FSL, SA) Adults aware that pupils taking part in Forest Schools and to check child welfare as part of their regular care. Faeces to be removed where possible in line with Dog Faeces procedure (FSL, SA) 	1	3	6			

Group issues on site											
Outdoor classroom setting: Accidents, injuries and emergencies on site	Unable to contact emergency services. First Aid Required Safety of participants jeopardised	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults to carry turned on, charged up mobile phones. Network coverage checked (FSL, SA) • Supervision ratios maintained (FSL, SA) • Adults aware of nearest A&E and First Aid and Emergency, Accident and Injury Procedures and site access points. (FSL, SA) • Forest Schools Leader hold first aid certificate and other adults have supplementary first aid qualifications. (FSL, SA) • First Aid Kit and Emergency Bag available (FSL) • Land owner notified of dates and times group on site. (FSL) 	1	3	3			

Lost, missing or absconding participant	Disorientation, abduction, distress	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision ratios established (FSL, SA) • Regular head counts (FSL, SA) • Safety talk given (FSL) • Use well defined path to site (FSL, SA, P) • Site boundary activities regularly reinforced (FSL) • Signal established for group to rejoin in the safe assembling area in the centre of site. (FSL, SA) • Lost or missing child procedure followed. (FSL, SA) 	1	3	3			
Hygiene issues	Disease, germs, illness, sickness	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toileting procedure for site to be followed and 'comfort bag' of equipment available for pupils along with some spare clothing (FSL, SA) • Hands to be wiped and cleaned prior to eating or drinking including antibacterial wipes or wash. (FSL, SA, P) • Food hygiene procedure to be followed prior to any preparation of food or camp fire foods. (FSL, SA, P) 	1	2	2			

Supervision of children at Forest Schools	Inadequate supervision of children, misunderstanding of responsibilities, safety or safeguarding of children compromised	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School and parents adequately informed of the Forest Schools programme and consents received (FSL, SA) • Staff CRB checked (SA, FSL) • All supporting staff made aware of all site and supervision procedures and responsibilities and agreed prior to the sessions (FSL) • Pastoral care / child protection issues handled by school staff in line with school child protection policy and safeguarding procedure (SA) • Session terminated if safety or supervision ratios compromised (FSL, SA) • Supervision ratios established and maintained (FSL, SA) • School behaviour, discipline and anti-bullying policy followed (FSL, SA, P) 	1	3	6			
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