



Covid -19 Risk Benefit Assessment

Dynamic Risk Benefit Assessment: Covid -19

Assessed by: E Brock

Date: June 12th 2020

Next assessment due (3 weeks later)

Benefits of being engaged in an outdoor activity in natural environment:

Being outdoors in nature reduces stress, keeps immunity strong, builds resilience and community, keeps us physically healthy.

Forest school builds confidence, social skills, motivation and concentration, physical skills, knowledge and understanding, stress relief, connection to nature and independence.

Value Added Benefits:

Staff-student relationships, staff skills development, alternative source of recreation to digital media, fitness and health

UK Gov Guidelines:

The government has opted to open schools with a reduced capacity, being open for the children of keyworkers and vulnerable children. As of June 1st, reception, years 1 and year 6 will return. Classes will be split into groups of no more than 12 called a bubble. The member of staff stays with that same group of children all day.

Government Guidance (updated 10/05/2010)

Exercise outside as often as you wish – following social distancing guidelines

Use outdoor sports facilities (tennis court, golf clubs etc)

Spend time outdoors

Day trips to outdoor open space are permitted with members of your household

People who cannot work from home encouraged to return to work from 13th May 2020.

NHS recommendations:

- Wash hands regularly with soap and water (hand sanitizer if not possible to wash effectively)
- Catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue or use your sleeve. Bin tissues immediately. Wash hands
- Self-isolate if showing any symptoms of Covid 19 (high temperature, cough, anosmia) for 14 days

FSA guidance:

Government has acknowledged that “the risk of transmission outdoors is significantly lower”.

Forest School session should not proceed without suitable hand washing facilities. Tippy tap of similar and soap.

Hazard and to whom	Likelihood (1-5)	Hazard severity (1-5)	Risk factor (1-5)	Control measures to reduce the risk	Residual risk factor
<p>Spread of Covid -19 during forest school</p> <p>Contraction of the virus within a group setting</p> <p>Further cross contamination within the community</p>	3	3	9	<p>We are informing people to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Follow the NHS recommended listed above *Not attend the sessions if they fall into one or more of the vulnerable groups listed by the NHS (including drop off and pick ups) *stay away for at least 14 days if they or any member of their household has a high temperature or even a mild cough *Not share food and drink and to bring their own. <p>We are actively and regularly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hand washing at the start of the session, before snacks, after snacks, before an activity IF using tools 3 x handwashing systems on site- soap dispenser pump action as well as soap on a rope. 2. Do not come to FS if feeling unwell -add to form for parents to sign 3. Cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces (tools, toilets, mats) at regular intervals.... in i.e. tools for a second group to use, mud kitchen equipment. 4. Widen the log circle 5. Siblings/families to sit together and spaced apart. 6. Informing ourselves of updated HSE and govt advice and to follow accordingly 7. No hot cooked snacks on the fire...instead pre-packed and wrapped snacks per child, in paper bags with names on. 	7

				<p>8. Children to bring own drink/cup/lunch at HC and LE/HE</p> <p>9. Designing sessions that are taking Covid -19 into account. Omitting equipment that is shared or that encounters close contact with the face I.e. binoculars, mirrors, some mud kitchen equipment.</p> <p>10. Follow NHS recommendations listed above</p> <p>11. Keeping open and informed dialogue with participants and parents/carers.</p> <p>12. At HC parents/carers to fill in and sign a new consent form with RA attached.</p> <p>13. Children at camp to split into 'pods' siblings and friends to stay and work together as much as possible especially on focused activities.</p> <p>14. Hammocks -sprayed throughout, hammocks allocated to pods and washed at the end of the day.</p> <p>15. Parents to stay in cars or away from the drop off pick up point so that the leader can welcome/dispatch each child at a time to their parents. Diff drop off times allocated.</p> <p>16. Reducing group sizes at Forest school camps to the gov guidelines of pods of 5 children to 1 staff member. No more than 15 children per day to start with until guidance changes.</p>		
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