

# R i s k   A s s e s s m e n t

**Location:** Main Woods

**Activities undertaken:** Forest School

**Name Of Person Undertaking Risk Assessment:** Dan Nichols

**Last updated:** 14th June 2018



No	Likelihood (L)	Severity (S)
1	Very unlikely	Very low
2	Unlikely	Low
3	Possible	Medium
4	Likely	High
5	Very Likely	Very high

## Risk level

	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5
2	2	4	6	8	10
3	3	6	9	12	15
4	4	8	12	16	20
5	5	10	15	20	25

White - Usual vigilance required

Green - Actionable - Regulatory measures required

Orange - Significant risk - Regulatory measures required, including appropriate training and equipment

Red - Severe - Regulatory measures required, including appropriate training, equipment and monitoring

The following risk assessment is to be used in conjunction with NFS normal operating procedure document

Hazards	Risk level L / S	Who is at risk? <i>S = Staff C = Child P = Public</i>	Regulatory Measure
Slips, Trips and Falls	4/3	S/C/P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety brief including - No running rule in the woods</li> <li>• Ensure that footwear is correctly fitted</li> <li>• Use duck boards where possible to cover muddy sections</li> </ul>
Getting lost	3/2	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety brief including - How to find your way back to the main site (i.e. head uphill, do not cross stream)</li> <li>• Clearly marked area when working with very young children</li> <li>• Ensure correct supervision of children (as per NOP's)</li> </ul>
Hypothermia (too cold)	2/3	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure correct clothing worn for the conditions</li> <li>• Keep under cover when necessary</li> <li>• Blankets available on site and wooly hat to be offered to cold children</li> </ul>
Hyperthermia/ Heatstroke	2/3	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure correct clothing worn for the conditions including a sun hat</li> <li>• Keep under cover when necessary</li> <li>• Ensure everyone drinks plenty of water</li> </ul>
Sunburn	4/2	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure participants bring and apply sunscreen where necessary</li> <li>• Keep very young children under cover on very hot days</li> </ul>
Bites and stings	2/4	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety brief including - Avoiding bites and stings</li> <li>• Care to be taken especially in new areas</li> <li>• Sting relief in first aid kit</li> </ul>

Hazards	Risk level L / S	Who is at risk? <i>S = Staff C = Child P = Public</i>	Regulatory Measure
<b>Allergies</b>	3/4	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all staff and children carry correct medication for allergies if they have them</li> <li>• Ensure that the area inside the fence is checked for plants which are known to cause allergic reactions</li> </ul>
<b>Falling Objects</b>	3/4	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use area 2 on very windy days</li> <li>• General site survey to be done on arrival to identify immediate dangers.</li> <li>• General tree surveys carried out a few times a year</li> <li>• Safety brief to include - Dangers of falling wood and not shaking trees</li> <li>• Helmets to be worn during tree felling and correct felling protocol to be observed</li> </ul>
<b>Breaking wood</b>	3/3	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety brief to include - Correct methods of breaking wood and dangers of incorrect techniques</li> <li>• Use of breaking station rather than trees where possible</li> </ul>
<b>Injuries from cutting tools</b>	4/4	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correct demonstration and explanation on safe cutting techniques</li> <li>• Ensure tools are sharp (to prevent excessive force being used) and fit for purpose</li> <li>• Ensure correct level of supervision at all times when using cutting tools</li> <li>• Cutting tools to be stored in correct and safe manner when not in use</li> </ul>
<b>Injuries caused by flying wood when chopping wood with axes</b>	3/3	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (In addition to above) - Ensure clear area during full swing use to protect from flying objects</li> <li>• Eye protection to be worn by user and onlookers (area to be specified by staff)</li> </ul>

Hazards	Risk level L / S	Who is at risk? <i>S = Staff C = Child P = Public</i>	Regulatory Measure
<b>Splinters and thorns</b>	4/1	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caution to be taken (especially with very young children when handling wood)</li> <li>• Correct supervision to be given when picking blackberries or playing near to brambles and thorns</li> </ul>
<b>Burns from fire</b>	4/4	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When lighting fires - correct supervision must be given at all times</li> <li>• Long hair, scarves etc must be tied back when around fire</li> <li>• Fires must only be lit in marked areas</li> <li>• Sit or kneel down when near to fire (fire circle)</li> <li>• Only feed fires as much as is necessary for use</li> <li>• Fires are never to be left unattended</li> <li>• Water/ fire blanket and burn gel on hand</li> <li>• Young children to be supervised at all times when near fire (use of ring fence where necessary)</li> <li>• Appropriate resources ready to extinguish fire quickly in need be</li> </ul>
<b>Scalds from hot liquid</b>	3/4	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extreme caution to be taken when handling hot liquids</li> <li>• Correct supervision of young children to be given at all times</li> <li>• Flask to be tied up to prevent spillages</li> </ul>
<b>Cooking over fire</b>	4/3	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marshmallows can burn - Ensure children are supervised 1:3 maximum and use green sticks and back of hand technique.</li> </ul>
<b>Poisoning</b>	2/5	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety brief to include - Identification of poisonous plants (e.g. bluebells and foxgloves) and fungi as well as how to handle unknown species</li> <li>• Ensure correct health and safety standards are upheld at all times when handling and cooking food</li> </ul>

Hazards	Risk level L / S	Who is at risk? <i>S = Staff C = Child P = Public</i>	Regulatory Measure
Leptospirosis and other diseases	1/4	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety brief to include - dangers of leptospirosis and other diseases</li> <li>Wash hands before eating and before leaving site</li> </ul>
Drowning	3/5	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure correct supervision when operating around water margins</li> <li>Where water is too deep or where the abilities of the child or staff member are insufficient to handle the environment PFD's are to be worn</li> </ul>
Falling down drop	3/3	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fence off steep drops where appropriate</li> <li>Care to be taken when around steep drops</li> </ul>
Climbing trees	4/5	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety brief to include - rules on tree climbing</li> <li>Do not stand directly under climbers</li> <li>Climbers to be 'spotted' at all times</li> <li>Correct supervision to be given at all times when climbing trees</li> <li>Where appropriate ropes are to be used to protect climbers</li> </ul>
Falling off or being hit by rope swings	4/4	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only one person on a swing at a time (unless adult supervising very young child)</li> <li>Clear area around swing to be kept clear of spectators</li> <li>Swing use to be supervised at all times (where appropriate)</li> </ul>
Cuts from barbed wire or old fencing	2/2	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All old wire fences to be removed where possible and un-protected areas to be roped off as soon as possible</li> </ul>
Damage caused by walking/ falling into branches and low limbs	3/3	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care should be taken at times of limited visibility.</li> <li>low branches in high traffic areas to be managed appropriately in order to minimise risk</li> </ul>

Hazards	Risk level L / S	Who is at risk? <i>S = Staff C = Child P = Public</i>	Regulatory Measure
Injured by sling shot projectiles	2/3	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Range rules to be upheld at all times</li> </ul>
Stranger danger	1/5	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety brief to include - how to deal with unknown persons</li> <li>NFS ID badge to be worn at all times</li> <li>All unknown persons to be questioned and asked to show bracelet</li> </ul>
<b>Stones bouncing back or catapult elastic snapping when using catapult range</b>	3/3	S/C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catapults to be inspected regularly and any damaged catapults to be quarantined and either repaired or safely disposed of</li> <li>Wear eye protection when using catapult</li> </ul>
<b>Hit by stones from catapult range</b>	1/3	S/C/P	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure sufficient safe overshoot area</li> </ul>