



The Grange Primary School

Early Years Foundation

Stage Outdoors

Risk Assessment
2023-2024

Early Years Foundation Stage

General Risk Analysis

- be aware of the temperature of tap water
- keep unused electrical sockets secure with safety covers
- mop up spilt liquids promptly
- sweep up spilt sand promptly
- keep floor clutter free
- make sure that computer cables do not trail on the floor
- check all play equipment regularly
- replace worn handgrips and pedals where possible
- Check the turf material regularly for upturns
- warn children about the dangers of trapping fingers in doors
- supervise children outside at all times
- make sure that the gates are bolted and locked
- no children in the kitchen/staff area unsupervised

Outdoor Environment Checklist

Is the outdoor environment safe and secure?	✓
Is the learning environment an emotionally safe place for children to be?	✓
Is the outdoor environment accessed in all weathers?	✓
Does the learning environment enable children to continue to develop as independent learners?	✓
Are learning opportunities maximised by using the space and time available to you creatively?	✓
Can the children use the outdoor environment for all aspects of their learning?	✓
Is the outdoor environment easily accessible to the children?	✓
Is the outdoor environment always supervised?	✓
Is the learning environment too hot/ too cold/ too stuffy/ too dark?	X
Do children have easy access to drinks of water?	✓
Is there adequate space for the children to learn and play?	✓
Do you offer a range of outdoor activities for each of the areas of learning?	✓

Points to consider

Visibility-	
How much of the outside area can be seen?	All parts can be seen at all times : 3 adults outside at all times (FS2)

	<p>2 adults outside at all times (FS1)</p> <p>Make sure that the children are always in sight and hearing distance.</p> <p>Reduction of the outdoor space if less adults are available.</p>
Are there any blind spots?	Not if three adults are out at all times.
Is condensation an issue?	No
Access Points/security	
How do the children access the outside environment?	<p>F1- Through the door in the classroom.</p> <p>F2 – Through the door in the classroom.</p> <p>Under no circumstances do foundation stage children go outdoors unattended.</p>
How are the access points made secure?	Each exterior gate has a large bolt and a passcode lock which are only ever opened by an adult. The foundation access doors are opened by an adult only, when it is time to go outdoors as all external classroom doors are locked throughout the day.
How often are fencing/gates checked by staff?	At the beginning of each session by foundation stage staff and regular safety checks by the CareTaker.
Are the access points used by staff, children, parents or visitors to access other areas of the site?	<p>Four gates lead onto the FS Outdoor Area playground. These are locked during the school day.</p> <p>FS1 –One gate links to playground. This is locked during the school day, and only opened by a member of staff for the FS1</p>

	children to go home at lunch time, then it is locked again.
Equipment	
Which equipment/resources will always require adult supervision?	All outdoor activities have general adult supervision to ensure that everyone is safe and that children are playing/working appropriately.
Which equipment/resources will require regular safety checks?	All items are checked daily but the vehicles, house, sheds, sand and water trays, crates, woodwork bench, bike yard, mud kitchen and mud pit are to have regular safety checks.
How often and by whom will these checks be made?	Before each session by staff.
Pupils	
How many children can have access to the environment?	All children have access, but no more than 13 with 1 adult at any one time.
How will this be controlled, so you know who is outside at any given time?	The adult outside monitors the number of children.
Other	
How will weather conditions affect surfaces, equipment, activities and access?	The waterproof items stay out permanently; all other items are stored in the sheds or under the shelter. Surfaces are obviously affected but access is only allowed if the surfaces are safe. The caretaker (site manager) clears any potential hazards such as wet leaves, ice etc

First aid - are adults working in early years aware of the designated first aider in school?	The following staff have a current first aid certificate in FS- Sue Brown, Gail Symonds ,Matina Fox and Steph Wright, which are displayed in the setting.
Is the environment close to public access points or public footpaths?	Yes – only when gate is open by an adult.

General Outdoor Area Risk Assessment

Who could be harmed	Children
Existing controls	<p>Outdoor equipment is checked daily to ensure everything is safe and in working order</p> <p>Staff made aware of any common possible hazards e.g. by the caretaker</p> <p>All gates to be closed at all times; and all gates are closed as the last adult passes through.</p>
How serious is the risk of injury?	Low

Individual activity risk assessments

SEVERITY		LIKELIHOOD	
Rating		Rating	
5	Death/ Permanent disability	5	Will almost certainly happen.
4	Serious injury/ long term sickness	4	Highly likely to happen.
3	Temporary disability 3-day Absence	3	Possible.
2	Required medical attention.	2	Might/less likely.

1	Minor injury e.g. bruise, graze	1	Remote possibility

Severity x Likelihood = Risk Factor	
Factor	Risk Assessment
16-25	Unacceptable! Requires immediate attention.
10-15	A high priority for action.
6-9	Medium risk – do something as soon as possible.
3-5	Low priority - examine practicality of change.
1-2	Low risk – no further action required.

Vehicles area/Bike yard (tricycles, bikes and scooters etc)

Possible risks	Existing Controls	Severity	likelihood	Severity x likelihood
Broken parts Flat tyres Rusting or flaking metal	Vehicles to be checked daily to ensure they are in working order; no broken parts, good condition etc – staff to give them a 'test drive' before each session.	1	3	3
Children falling off a vehicle	Adult supervision Ensure the children are clear about the expectations and routines for using the wheeled	2	2	4

	<p>toys before the children can access them independently.</p> <p>Wheeled toys to be used in the clearly marked roadway in the bike yard.</p>			
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Sand, mud pit, mud kitchen, water

Possible risks	Existing Controls	Severity	likelihood	Severity x likelihood
Children getting sand flicked in their eyes	Model good playing – adult to keep a close eye on this area to ensure children are playing appropriately	2	2	4
Any litter/insects etc getting into the sand and going unnoticed	Make sure that the sand tray lid is put on at the end of the day to avoid anything getting in the sand.	1	1	1
The tray being left out overnight out of the shelter	Wheel the tray under the shelter at the end of the day for overnight shelter. Staff to work together when lifting the lid on/off and when	1	1	1

Dirty water	<p>moving the tray to prevent staff injury.</p> <p>Ensure water is tipped away at the end of each day. Add clean tap water every morning.</p>	2	2	2
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DIY Tools and Woodwork bench

Possible risks	Existing Controls	Severity	likelihood	Severity x likelihood
Children getting hit by a tool	Model good playing – adult to keep a close eye on this area to ensure children are playing and using equipment appropriately.	3	3	4
Cutting finger on the saw and other sharp equipment	Model good playing – adult to keep a close eye on this area to ensure children are playing and using equipment appropriately.	3	3	4

Tyres , wooden blocks and crates, climbing frame

Possible risks	Existing Controls	Severity	likelihood	Severity x likelihood
Children falling from crates	Ensure children are clear about the expectations and routines for using the climbing frame and crates. This to be the focus of an adult led activity before the children can access it independently.	2	2	4
Children falling onto a hard surface from the climbing frame/crates	The astro turf around the climbing frame is to be checked daily for upturned overhanging material.	1	1	1
Non-waterproof equipment being affected by the weather	The crates are on a level surface. Ensure tyres have not been affected by the weather – check daily.	2	2	4