



# Marazion Oasis Forest School

## Risk Assessment

**Hazard/Activity:** Forest School area which is shared with the on-site Primary School. The area is located at the end of the community field and is easily accessible via our outdoor area. The forest school area consists of an outdoor learning classroom, small shallow pond, fire pit/outdoor cooking area, orchard, fairy house, bug hotel and open grassy areas. There are various herbs, plants and flowers planted throughout the forest school area and wild plants/flowers grow in the hedgerows (including nettles and brambles).

### Who is at Risk:

Employee  Trainee  Self-Employed  Contractor

Children  Visitors  Public

Other (please specify)

### Risk:

Death  Major Injury  Minor Injury

No Injury (days lost)  Equipment  Environment

### Likelihood:

Probable  Possible  Unlikely  Remote

### Control Measures:

- A member of staff to complete a thorough Health and Safety check of the Forest School Area each morning. Remove any plants that could cause harm (nettles, brambles, mushrooms, fungi etc), animal faeces, rubbish, sharp/broken objects etc. Report any concerns to Manager/Deputy Manager.
- Plants, shrubs and trees planted in the area have been carefully selected with the support of Jo Cooper, our Forest School Leader, to ensure they are safe for children.
- Perimeter gates and fences are checked at start of each day to ensure security is maintained. Any issues/concerns reported to Manager/Deputy Manger before use.
- The Forest School Area is easily accessible from the nursery outdoor play area. Children and staff do not need to walk through the car park or along any roads to access the area.
- Staff to child ratios will be maintained at all times when using the Forest School area.

- Staff training - Briony Sedgeman has completed the Outdoor Leader Training and Lindsay Roberts has completed Outdoor Food Hygiene. All staff members hold current paediatric first aid certificates which are updated every 3 years.
- The Forest School Area is adjacent to the nursery site. A telephone and list of emergency contacts for staff and children are available in the nursery. The location of the nursery site (postcode and grid reference) is clearly displayed above the telephone in the office in the event of an emergency.
- Lit fires must be supervised at all times. The fire pit area is clearly marked with large logs. Children are not permitted to go inside the logs. There are low benches positioned around the fire at a safe distance for the children to sit on. Adults to teach children the rules for being around the fire and fire safety as ongoing learning opportunities.
- Safety talk with children at start of each session to discuss/remind about fire safety, not eating/touching plants (including mushrooms and fungi - look but don't touch), boundaries, listening ears - everybody listening song, following instructions, 1 2 3 where are you, etc.
- Ensure staff and children dress appropriately according to the weather conditions - waterproofs and wellington boots when it is raining, sun hats and sun cream when it is sunny. In adverse/severe weather conditions then area to remain closed - staff to liaise with Manager/Deputy Manager to complete dynamic risk assessment.
- There are currently no big tree's growing in the forest school area, therefore, there is no risk of trees falling during high winds.
- Anti-bac gel for adults to clean hands. Wet wipes for children to wipe hands.
- Toilet facilities available in the nursery building for adults and children. This includes a changing area, spare clothes etc if required.
- Individual children's food allergies are detailed on the Allergy List. A copy to be kept in travel first aid bag and checked before snack time/food preparation activities.
- Individual medication is kept onsite in the nursery building and is easily accessible if required. All high-risk medication such as Epi-pen and asthma pumps are stored in the first aid kit and kept in a safe place (shed) at the onsite forest school area. All staff are aware of individual children's medical needs.
- Gardening tools and equipment is stored in the shed, which is kept locked at all times when not in use. Children are supervised at all times when using tools and equipment and adults teach them how to hold and use different tools correctly. Adult must count tools out and count in to ensure they are all returned and accounted for at the end of each session.
- Stinging insects (bees/wasps) - check area for nests as part of H&S checks - report any concerns to deputy manager/centre manager. First aid kit available in nursery/portable kit with adult. All adults hold current paediatric first aid certificate which is updated every 3 years.

Are the Control Measures Adequate? Yes

(please delete as required)

If no, complete Additional Control Measures

**Additional Control Measures:**

**Responsibility for Additional Control Measures:**

Manager       Producer       Maintenance       Stage Manager

Outside Agencies (please specify)

**Additional Control Measures Completed:**

**Signed:**

**Name:**

**Date:**

This Risk Assessment has been completed by:

Name: Lorna Trudgeon

Signed: *Lorna Trudgeon*

Date: September 2023

Review Date: August 2024

