

Risk Benefit Assessment Document: St Martins Primary School

Risk-benefit assessment date: Last update 30/4/26 Assessed by: (Jenni Upham) Tracey Thomas, Alun Brown ,Sharon James and Play Team

Description of activity, principle or object, who might be at risk and what kind of harm.	Benefit or utility or related policy	Description of risk management and maintenance agreed	Nominated person	Action date
<p><u>WHEELIES -GROUND</u></p> <p>Risk of: Falling and hurting joints Scrapes grazes Being hit by a rolling toy Crashing as into others Hair and loose clothing can get caught</p>	<p>Exercise Co-ordination Balance Challenge New experience Travel form of rolling</p>	<p>Clear zone area for play. Floor to be kept clear of other equipment. Only one child to use at a time. Children only sit on bottoms on the wheelies. Children told about safe play Monitor and evaluate Hair must be tied back Scarves removed or put inside coats Coats done up so stop them being caught in wheels Observe and react</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>Sept 24 ongoing</p>
<p><u>SPINNING TOPS</u></p> <p>Grazes Falling out Being blown by the Wind Getting dizzy and falling Hitting heads Knocking into other children</p>	<p>Exercise Core strength Rotation - movement New challenge</p>	<p>Only in the zone allocated. Keep the floor around it clear. Only one child at a time. Other children cannot push or help the movement. Must wait for the top to be still before getting out Children to be told about safe play - watching for others. Observe and react.</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>Sept 24 ongoing</p>
<p><u>PAINTING</u></p> <p>Eating the paint Throwing the paint disc Getting paint on clothes or other children's clothes</p> <p><u>MUD DIGGING AREA</u></p>	<p>Creative skills Motor skills Imagination Hand/eye coordination</p>	<p>Only to be used on the three wipe boards. Aprons available for the children to use. Water spray bottles to clean the boards, these are not to be removed from the area. Observe and react</p>	<p>TT SJ</p>	<p>Feb 26 ongoing</p>

<p>Slipping on wet mud Eating mud Hitting hands with trowel Unearthing hazardous materials Water too heavy to lift</p>	<p>Exercise Co-ordination Building and moving skills Exploratory play</p>	<p>Do not throw mud and be aware of throwing mud behind you. Do not eat the mud If it gets in the eyes - seek advice straight away from the play team immediately. Only one child on a trowel at a time. Talk to the children about safe play. Observe and react. Only fill your bucket/container with water, so you can safely lift it.</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>March 25 ongoing</p>
<p><u>SANDPITS & ROCK PIT</u></p> <p>Sand in eyes, ears, mouth</p> <p>Throwing rocks and hitting another child. Putting rocks in mouths Hitting hands with equipment</p>	<p>Calming activity Building skills Social Skills Opportunities for imaginative and creative play</p>	<p>Do not eat the sand/ put rocks in your mouth Do not throw sand and rocks Do not move the lids off the sandpit/rock pit without an adult present. If the lids are on you cannot play If sand gets in eyes, ask for help from the play team immediately Do not move the sand away from the sandpits Do not move rocks away from the rock pit Do not add other materials into the sand / rocks (like grass, mud etc) Observe and react</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>Sand Pits April 25 ongoing</p> <p>Rock Pit Sept 25 ongoing</p>
<p><u>CRATES</u></p> <p>Bumping Heads Injury to hands and feet being caught in a crate Split or damaged crates Causing small cuts</p> <p><u>CAR TYRES</u></p>	<p>Body Strength Pushing and Pulling Social Skills Co-operation and listening skills</p> <p>Body Strength</p>	<p>A stack height limited to the smallest person's hip in the group. Crates not to be lifted above heads and only one to be lifted one at a time. Avoid standing on stacks of crates, staff to inspect stacks and that they are stable to continue play. When pushing and pulling the shopping crates, be aware of speed and cornering to reduce the likelihood of toppling over. Observe and react</p> <p>Tyres stacked to the hip height of the smallest</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p> <p>Curriculum</p>	<p>On going</p>

<p>Crushing limbs (hands and feet) Damaged tyres, re nails and wires etc - checked weekly by adult Slipping when wet Height limit for the tyres being stacked.</p>	<p>Balance Social skills Co-operation Well -being Imaginations Learning</p>	<p>person in the group Two to lift a tyre Keep in dedicated zones Check the space around you and be aware of others when rolling tyres Keep on a flat surface When wet, evaluate your footing Observe and react</p>	<p>Lead SJ</p>	
<p><u>WOOD PALLETS & CABLE DRUMS</u></p> <p>Splinters Weight of lifting Trapping fingers Falling on people if unstable Slipping between gaps Slippery when wet Height limit for stacking Nails</p> <p><u>WATER PLAY AND PADDLING POOL</u></p> <p>Slip, trips and falls Water contamination Drowning</p>	<p>Strength Team work Co-operation Communication Imagination</p> <p>Role play Imagination Well being Co-ordination Enjoyment of getting wet In hot weather</p>	<p>Pallets stacked to the hip height of smallest person in the group Remind children to check edges and surfaces for rough parts when picking them up Bigger than me - it takes 3 children at least to carry and move them Test your structures - does it stand and balance or need support Direct Supervision during this play-dynamic RB Examine Pallets weekly. Observe and react.</p> <p>Using fresh water daily in water play areas. Filling the paddling pool with a maximum of 5cms Ensure the pool is put on a non slip surface Constant supervision To be used for boats, duck play with children sat around the outside. All children to be told not to drink any water during water play in all areas. Observe and react.</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ SJ</p>	<p>July 25 ongoing</p>

<p><u>HAMMOCKS</u></p> <p>Falling out of hammock Collapse of hammock Bruises Broken bones Bumped heads</p>	<p>A space for rest, relaxation and Reflection. Friendships Balance</p>	<p>Use only on the grass where the adult has set it up. (80cms from the ground) To be left in place and ropes not untied. Try it first and sit down slowly. Only one child per hammock. Check there are no stones etc under the hammock before using. No swinging or pushing the hammock. No lying underneath them or jumping over them. Observe and react.</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>May 25 ongoing</p>
<p><u>WHEELCHAIR & WALKERS</u></p> <p>Falling out of the chair Fingers being caught Hair and coats getting stuck Tipping backwards Hitting other children</p>	<p>Strength Movement Role play Imagination Co-operation</p>	<p>Keep the chair in a set space / zone. Only one child to sit in at a time and must be sat on their bottoms. Wheel chairs will be cable tied open so that it cannot fold down and trap fingers. Children need to move in control - being able to stop and turn safely. Observe and react. To be used in the wheelie area</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>Sept 25 ongoing</p>
<p><u>PUSHCHAIRS</u></p> <p>Falling out of the chair Fingers being caught Hair and coats getting stuck Tipping backwards Hitting other children</p>	<p>Strength Movement Role play Imagination Co-operation</p>	<p>Keep the chair in a set space / zone. Only one child to sit in at a time and must be sat on their bottoms. Pushchairs will be cable tied open so that it cannot fold down and trap fingers. To be used in the wheelie area. Children need to move in control - being able to stop and turn safely. Observe and react.</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>Sept 25 Ongoing</p>

<p><u>LOOSE PARTS</u> <u>Appendix 1</u></p> <p>Inappropriate use may lead to injuries</p>	<p>Enables children to develop friendships with creative play Imagination Co-operation</p>	<p>All loose parts checked weekly for damage and remove</p> <p>Check you can lift the part safely and there is nobody standing close to you. If it's bigger than you it takes two.</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>Sept 24 Ongoing</p>
<p><u>FOREST PLAY AND MUD KITCHEN</u></p> <p>Minor cuts and grazes Risk of eye injury from sharp branches Stings from nettles Ingested plants - illness</p>	<p>Imaginative and creative play Shade during hot and wet weather</p>	<p>Emphasise to children that they don't eat plants, berries or mud, or drink any water during play. Areas checked daily for unsafe material. (broken glass thrown over fence, animal waste) Mud Kitchen checked weekly for damaged equipment, NO glass or china in the mud kitchen. Children are not allowed to jump over the bushes. Observe and react.</p>	<p>SJ</p>	<p>Sept 24 Ongoing</p>
<p><u>ROPE PLAY</u> (Opal Guidance 6.6)</p> <p>Looped rope suspended at height Rope burns Rope whips Children wrapped in a rope</p>	<p>Imaginative play - tying things together Movement and Strength - pulling each other around Fitness - skipping</p> <p>Collaborative team work</p>	<p>Thicker rope is safer than thinner rope Looped ropes should be closely supervised Ropes shouldn't be tied at height on the fixed play equipment Children told not to put ropes around their necks Or tying another child up Ropes used at height for den building should be removed at the end of each session. Ensure you have enough space around you when skipping Observe and react</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead SJ</p>	<p>Sept 25 Ongoing</p>

<p><u>SMALL WORLD ZONE</u></p> <p>Minor injuries from caught fingers and small cuts</p> <p>Choking putting small pieces in their mouths le lego</p> <p><u>TARPS & DUMPY BAGS</u></p> <p>Hurting another child by jumping on the tarps and dumpy bags</p>	<p>Imaginative and creative play</p> <p>Friendships and co-operation</p> <p>Calm area</p> <p>Strength</p> <p>Imaginative and creative play</p> <p>Team work</p>	<p>Breakages should be reported to an adult and put in the broken crate</p> <p>Children told not to put small pieces in their mouths</p> <p>Observe and reacted</p> <p>Children to ensure there hands can be seen at all time</p> <p>Do not jump on a rolled up tarp or dumpy bag in case someone is inside.</p> <p>Pull the dump bag from the front so children don't fall out.</p> <p>Observe and react</p>	<p>Curriculum Lead</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p>	<p>Sept 24 Ongoing</p> <p>Sept 25 ongoing</p>
<p><u>WHEELED OFFICE CHAIRS</u></p> <p>Bumped Heads</p> <p>Falling off the chair</p> <p>Wheeling into others</p>	<p>Role Play</p> <p>Movement and coordination</p> <p>Strength</p>	<p>Don't push each other in races</p> <p>The person sitting on it needs to be in control and aware of people around them.</p> <p>Don't use at speed that you can't stop safely</p> <p>Observe and react.</p>	<p>SJ</p>	<p>April 25 ongoing</p>
<p><u>DRESSING UP</u></p> <p>Minor risk of suffocation</p>	<p>Creativity</p> <p>Teamwork</p> <p>Sensory</p> <p>Imagination</p> <p>Role Play</p>	<p>Clothes to be checked to ensure they are in a Good condition and unsuitable clothes removed.</p> <p>Immediate intervention by the playteam if children are using inappropriately.</p> <p>Children to ensure they are not pulling clothes , masks etc over other peoples faces.</p> <p>Observe and react.</p>	<p>SJ</p>	<p>Sept 24 Ongoing</p>

<p><u>POGO STICKS</u></p> <p>Falling and minor chance of breaking bones Scrapes and Grazes Being hit by a falling stick or a stick being thrown Bouncing on uneven ground and falling</p>	<p>Exercise Coordination Balance Personal challenge Travel form of jumping</p>	<p>Check the floor is clear of other equipment Only jump on the concrete Only one child to use at a time Children are not to be helped on, they need to manage it themselves so they are in control Children told about safe play Observe and react</p>	<p>JU SJ</p>	<p>Sept 24 ongoing</p>
<p><u>STILTS</u></p> <p>Falling and minor chance of breaking bones Scrapes and Grazes Being hit by a falling stick or a stick being thrown Height of the footplate is too high for the child</p>	<p>Exercise Coordinator Balance Personal Challenge Travel form of walking</p>	<p>Check the floor is clear of other equipment Only jump on the concrete Only one child to use at a time Children are not to be helped on, they need to manage it themselves to they are in control Footplate high adjusted to suit the height of the child. Children told about safe play Observe and react</p>	<p>JU SJ</p>	<p>Sept 24 ongoing</p>
<p><u>CRUTCHES</u></p> <p>Tripping over Scrapes and Grazes Being hit by a falling crutch or a crutch being thrown A crutch being used as a weapon.</p>	<p>Exercise Coordination Balance Travel form of walking</p>	<p>Check the floor is clear of equipment Only use on the concrete Children told not to use them as guns or weapons due to hurting others Crutches should be kept facing the floor Observe and react</p>	<p>TT SJ</p>	<p>On going</p>
<p><u>FOOTBALL GOAL POSTS</u></p> <p>Falling posts Tripping over the net Feet getting caught in the net</p>	<p>Exercise Team work Communication</p>	<p>Children told not to climb on, swing on, or hang from the cross bar. Nets clips have to be checked on a regular basis and they must be plastic. Sandbags/weights to be used to stabilize the goal posts. Observe and react.</p>	<p>TT SJ</p>	<p>On going</p>

<p><u>HOBBY HORSE</u></p> <p>Tripping over. Scrapes and grazes. Being hit by a falling hobby horse or the hobby horse being thrown. A hobby horse being used as a weapon</p> <p><u>BROOMS/BRUSHES</u></p> <p>Tripping over Scrapes and grazes Being hit by a falling broom or a broom being thrown. Brooms being used as weapons.</p>	<p>Exercise Coordination Balance Travel form of walking or galloping</p> <p>Exercise and upper body strength, Coordination.</p>	<p>Check the floor is free of equipment. Children told not to use them as guns or weapons due to hurting others. The horse's head should remain facing upwards in the child's hands. Observe and react.</p> <p>Check the floor is free of equipment. Children told not to use them as guns or weapons due to hurting others. Observe and react</p>	<p>TT SJ</p> <p>TT SJ</p>	<p>On going</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
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