

RISK BENEFIT ASSESSMENT

Location / Activity:	Outside Garden Area – Exploring the growing pumpkins	Date:	23/09/22	
Assessor:	Hayley Sims	Review date:	23/12/22	

The boxes in the table below will expand as you type into them; pre-entered text is simply for illustration. You should delete irrelevant items and replace with text relevant to your circumstances.
Your overall risk rating – Low, medium or high – is based on your judgement about whether the BENEFITS of the activity or opportunity outweigh the RISKS.

Experience exploring outdoor space in photograph	How will young people BENEFIT from this activity?	Hazards and risks	Who is at risk?	PRECAUTIONS in place to reduce the risk of injury	Overall risk RATING: L/M/H
Planting the pumpkin seeds	Children will learn mathematical and scientific concepts. Through real experiences they will learn about the environment and world around them. They will be watering the plants and learn about what is needed for them to survive. Planting provides children with a deep sense of belonging. They attract wildlife and can encourage responsibility for living things as well as laying good foundations and attitudes to the natural world around us.	Contamination of soil due to littering or animal faeces. (cats climbing over the nursery fence when closed) Children touching or ingesting the soil or litter	Children/ Staff	Soil to be checked daily and before activity begins for any contamination or litter that's has been disregarded by the public. Children will be encouraged to wash hands during and after activity.	Low

Experience exploring outdoor space in photograph	How will young people BENEFIT from this activity?	Hazards and risks	Who is at risk?	PRECAUTIONS in place to reduce the risk of injury	Overall risk RATING: L/M/H
Investigating/ Exploring and touching pumpkin plants	Learning about the transformation in nature. How they have grown. They will be able to see and feel first-hand the weight, texture, smell. Plants includes using all their senses.	The pumpkin stem (peduncle) can be spiky rough and irritate children's skin. The pumpkin can be heavy and dropped hurting a child.	Children/ staff	Gardening gloves provided for the children and close supervision when handling the pumpkins to make children aware the pumpkins can be heavy.	Low
Investigating mini beasts who have visited the plants and bug /bee hotels.	Develops knowledge and understanding of the environment. Children learn about mini beasts and experience first-hand what they look like. Creates curiosity in living things and the natural world	Children will be up close with the insects and may feel the need to touch everything they see. Some insects could sting or bite. Children may endure scratches or scrapes from bug hotel. Children have opportunities to move logs and stones looking for mini beasts which could lead to injury.	Children/ staff	Explain to children that we must respect the insects and be kind to them. Check for any allergies in children's records Ensure all children are wearing appropriate clothing	Medium
When raining the grass area can become like a bog area	Children learn about taking care of themselves, the weather and appropriate clothing to explore it. Children can observe the seasons and what this may mean for plants and minibeasts in the nursery garden.	The grass area can become slippery, muddy puddles form. Children can slip easily and fall over.	Children/ staff	Children to be provided with wellies, waterproof jackets and trousers. Children will be closely supervised encouraged to take great care when exploring area.	Medium

RISK BENEFIT ASSESSMENT

Location / Activity:	Outdoor area growing pumpkins (continued)	Date:	29/09/22
Assessor:	Hayley Sims	Review date:	23/12/22

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Your overall risk rating – Low, medium or high – is based on your judgement about whether the BENEFITS of the activity or opportunity outweigh the RISKS.

Experience exploring outdoor space in photograph	How will young people BENEFIT from this activity?	Hazards and risks	Who is at risk?	PRECAUTIONS in place to reduce the risk of injury	Overall risk RATING: L/M/H
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Watering the plants	Children learn independence skills, mathematical concepts as well as physical skills to carry the watering cans to water the plants. Children learn to take responsibility for nature. Walking over uneven ground supports children's physical development and gaining balance skills.	Uneven ground children may trip or slip over resulting in trips, twists or sprains.	Children/ Staff	Children will be reminded to take care the water butt is placed closely to the planting area, so children do not have far to walk and carry watering cans risking injury. Children encourages to wash hands afterwards.	Low
Children exploring the soil with trowels and rakes.	Children will be developing physical skills using the tools. This will lead to mathematical concepts and language as well learning about ecology and science.	Young children sometimes play in appropriately with tools and may harm others or walk off with the tools to do something else with them. This could result in trips, scrapes cuts or bruises.	children	Close supervision by staff. Staff will also role model correctly how to use the trowels safely. Trowels and rakes will be inspected and checked daily for any damages and replaced if needed. Children will be encouraged to wash hands afterwards and reminded not to put their hands in their mouths.	Low