Risk Assessment For: **Weather**

Assessment Undertaken By: Kathryn Day (Headteacher)   Date: 03 January 2024

Assessment Approved By: Trevor Watson (Health and Safety Lead)   Date: 18 January 2024

Significant Hazard, Events and Consequences Identified	Risk Level S x L = RR	L M H	List Groups of People Who Are Especially at Risk from the Hazards	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating S x L = RR	L M H
Falling trees or branches – serious fatal injury. High wind causing debris to fly about (smaller branches, sticks, leaves, dust).	5 x 3 = 15	H	Children Staff Visitors to Forest School	• Annual tree surveys undertaken by experienced tree surgeon and any remedial work acted on immediately. • Daily weather forecasts and weather warnings will be checked and precautions followed. • Forest School will be cancelled if winds reach gale force (37 miles per hour) or exceed Beaufort Wind Force Scale 6 (Strong Breeze). • No working in the woodland in high winds. • Daily site safety sweep undertaken by Forest School Leader before every session and Daily Safety Check Record completed and shared with adults. Filed at end of session. • Unsafe areas clearly roped off and entry forbidden. • Don't use tarpaulins or hammocks in high wind.	5 x 2 = 10	M
High temperatures – sunburn, heatstroke, dehydration.	4 x 5 = 20	H	Children Staff Visitors to Forest School	• Daily weather forecasts and weather warnings will be checked and precautions followed. • Fires will not be lit if there has been a long period of hot and dry weather and the Met Office's Fire Severity Index (FSI) is at level 2 or above. • Make sure children wear suitable clothing in hot weather – long sleeved cotton tops, long light trousers and a hat. • Letters sent to families to remind them what suitable clothing is required. • Inappropriate dress may mean Forest School Leader refuses participation. • Sun cream applied before session. • All children will take regular rest and drink breaks in a shady area. • Make sure that children don't spend long periods in the full sunshine or at all between 11.00 and 3.00. • Forest School staff will put up shelters to provide shade.	3 x 2 = 6	M

Significant Hazard, Events and Consequences Identified	Risk Level S x L = RR	L M H	List Groups of People Who Are Especially at Risk from the Hazards	Control Measures	Residual Risk Rating S x L = RR	L M H
Very low temperatures – frost bite, dehydration, hypothermia.	5 x 4 = 20	H	Children Staff Visitors to Forest School	• Daily weather forecasts and weather warnings will be checked and precautions followed. • Wind chill factor must be taken into account. • Make sure children wear wearing suitable cold weather clothing – thermals, hats, scarves, waterproofs, gloves and thin layers. • Letters sent to families to remind them what suitable clothing is required. • Make sure that there are enough extra clothes on site should a child noy have appropriate clothes. • Inappropriate dress may mean Forest School Leader refuses participation. • Cancelling Forest School if weather is set to be below -15°C. • Offer hot drinks regularly to ensure hydration – use Kelly Kettles and flasks. • End session if children and adults get too cold.	3 x 2 = 6	M

SEVERITY	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING (S x L)	
1 = No injury or illness 2 = First Aid injuries/illness 3 = Minor injury/illness – up to 3 days away 4 = 3(+) days injury/illness 5 = Major injury/illness 6 = Fatal or disabling injury/illness	1 = Very remote 2 = Improbable 3 = Possible 4 = Probable 5 = Likely 6 = Certainty	14+	High
		5 – 13	Medium
		1 – 4	Low

Reviewed By	Review Date
Kathryn Day	12/10/2024