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|  | **Play Equipment Risk Assessment (H&S Update – August 2017)** |  |

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| Operations/Work Activities covered by this assessment:  | **PLAY EQUIPMENT** |
| Site Address/Location:  |  | Department/Service/Team: |  |
| **Note:** A person specific assessment must be carried out for young persons, pregnant women and nursing mothers |

| Hazards Considered*Step 1 (Clause 3.1)* | Who might be harmed and how*Step 2**(Clause 3.2)* | Existing Control Measures:*Step 3**(Clause 3.3)* | Risk Rating  | Further action *Step 3**Consider hierarchy of controls i.e. elimination, substitution, engineering controls, signage/warning and/or administrative controls, (PPE as a last resort)* | Actions Step 4 (Clause 3.4) | Risk Rating |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Likelihood | Severity  | Risk Rating | who | when | complete | Likelihood | Severity  | Risk Rating |
| *(Name)* | *(Date)* | *(Date)* |
| **Unsuitable play equipment / tools** | Staff and pupils may experience cuts, bruises and fractures as a result of slips/trips, becoming trapped in equipment or following the collapse of equipment. Small items may also pose a choking hazard to pupils.  | Play equipment / tools are obtained from a reputable source.Play equipment / tools are appropriate for the age group concerned e.g. blunt ended scissors.Play equipment / tools are assembled and used in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.Arrangements are in place for the supervision of use of climbing equipment (unauthorised use of such equipment must be prevented e.g. before / after school).A visual inspection of equipment is conducted prior to use and a routine inspection is undertaken and recorded.Equipment is inspected annually by a competent person. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Arrangements are in place for worn or damaged items to be immediately removed and/or appropriately labelled. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Slips and trips** | Staff, pupils, visitors and contractors may be injured as a result of a slip or trip on equipment. This may result in bumps and blows, bruising and fractures. | Play equipment / tools are appropriately sited e.g. water and sand play areas on anti-slip surfaces (e.g. suitable mats) and away from traffic routes.Cleaning equipment is available for spillages of sand and water.Pedestrian routes are maintained around equipment.Storage facilities are available for tools / play equipment. Suitable floor surface and maintained in a good condition.Any hazards must be reported immediately. Appropriate footwear to be worn. Consideration given to weather and the potential risks for slips, trips and falls e.g. snow, ice, wet weather.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Falls from Height** | Staff and pupils may fall from height off play equipment causing bumps, bruises, sprains and fractures. | All play equipment to be visually inspected prior to use. Defective equipment must be removed from use until repaired or replaced. Suitable surfacing available to minimise impact from fall.Pupil to be supervised by staff whilst using the equipment.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Manual Handling** | Staff may be injured as a result of using incorrect lifting techniques and attempting to lift heavy/cumbersome loads. Such injuries may result in:* Sprains
* Back Injuries
* Muscular Skeletal Disorders (MSDs)
 | Staff have received Manual Handling training.Shared lifting practices to be adopted where appropriate.Large / heavy items to be assessed before handling.Lifting and Handling aids to be provided where necessary.Formal assessments of manual handling activities to be conducted for routine activities where there is a significant. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sharp Instruments** | Staff, pupils, visitors and contractors may experiences cuts, lacerations and piercing as a result of contact with sharp objects.  | Sharp equipment / tools are stored to prevent unauthorised access e.g. scissors.Adequate supervision is provided when such equipment / tools are in use.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Consider if any additional hazards are created and control measures are required if this activity is undertaken in non-routine or emergency conditions | Review Date (*Step 5*) : |
| Assessors Signature: | Date: | Authorised By: | Date: |

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| **Risk Definitions** |
| **Low** | Controls are adequate, no further action required, but ensure controls are monitored and any changes reassessed. |
| **Medium** | Consideration should be given as to whether the risks can be reduced using the hierarchy of control measures. Risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined time periods. Arrangements should be made to ensure that the controls are maintained and monitored for adequacy. |
| **High** | Substantial improvements should be made to reduce the level to an acceptable level. Risk reduction measures should be implemented urgently with a defined period. Consider suspending or restricting the activity, or applying interim risks controls. Activities in this category **must** have a written method statement/safe system of work and arrangements must be made to ensure that the controls are maintained and monitored for adequacy. |

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| **Potential Severity of Harm** | High **(e.g. death or paralysis, long term serious ill health)** | Medium | High | High |
| Medium **(an injury requiring further medical assistance or is a RIDDOR incident)** | Low | Medium | High |
| Low **(minor injuries requiring first aid)** | Low | Low | Medium |
|  |  | Low**(The event is unlikely to happen)** | Medium**(It is fairly likely it will happen)** | High**(It is likely to happen)** |
|  |  | Likelihood of Harm Occurring |