

Health and Safety – Generic Risk Assessment

Activity: School pupils at Gardens
Location: Court Farm, Tillington
Date of work: Spring 2012

Assessed by: H. Percy
Signature:
Assessment date: Updated
22/01/16

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Hazard to health – potential for harm	Who’s at risk	Risk Level (H/M/L)	Precautions (Action) required to reduce the level of risk
Water from garden tap – not for drinking	All	L	Verbal warning, written sign below tap, instructions on where to find safe drinking water.
Tripping – plants, edges of weed membrane, raised beds	All	L	Verbal warning. No running, no pushing. Edges taped and pegged. Instructions to step carefully from path to garden.
Soil – contact with skin and face – spread of germs	All	M	Verbal warning not to touch faces whilst at the gardens and to wear gloves if a child has a cut or sore on their hands. ALL CHILDREN MUST WASH HANDS AFTER HANDLING ANY MATERIALS. Antibacterial handwash kept in shed.
Splinters from raised beds	All	L	General awareness of wood as a natural material – avoid overhandling. Gloves available for carrying timber.
Insect bites and stings	All	L	Verbal warning to stay alert to bees and wasps being present especially on fruit. Check individual reactions to insect stings.
Plant allergy	All	L	Check individual reactions to plant contact. Wear gloves when weeding or touching plants, especially squashes if known to have an allergy. Vegetables and fruit to only be eaten under adult guidance
Falling off seats/ tables	students	L	Verbal warning to not sit or climb on tables. Students instructed to sit properly – no pushing. Seats placed on hard, level surface.
Paths – misuse of grit	students	M	Verbal warning – playing with or throwing grit is strictly forbidden. Constant monitoring.
Climbing on stacked timber	Students	L	Timber stacked to one side and covered. Verbal warning to leave alone. Any movement of timber to be done under adult instruction.
Sun – sun burn/ sun stroke	All	L	Verbal warning about covering up. Have sun cream available. Seek shade during breaks – take regular breaks. Encourage students to drink plenty of water.

		Likely severity of injury		
		Low	Medium	High
Likelihood of occurrence	Low	Low	Low	Medium
	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium
	High	Medium	Medium	High

Guidance note: severity of injury

Low –minor injury (cut, bruise etc) to one person
 Medium – minor injury to several people or medium injury (cut, broken bone etc) to one person
 High – medium injury to several people or major injury/death to one or more people. NO activities should be carried out with a HIGH risk. Put precautions in place to reduce the risk or DO NOT carry out the work

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Children wandering off, getting lost	children	L	Children to stay within the fenced area at all times. The garden gate to be kept shut. Children to be accompanied by an adult/s when going to the toilet and when walking to and from the bus.
Entering shed - tripping	All	L	Verbal warning. Kept free from obstructions. Never more than two students to enter a shed at a time.
Tools falling down in shed – tripping, knocking etc	students	L	Shed to be kept tidy. No more than two students in shed at one time. Both hands to be used when collecting long handled tool. Shed to be locked when tools not in use.
Carrying tools – tripping, knocking other people	All	L	Verbal instruction to always carry tools with the head of the implement downwards. One tool at a time. No running with a tool. Be aware of other people at all times.
Using long handled tools – digging, raking, hoeing. Injury to others	All	M	Tools should never be lifted above waist height. There should be two metres between each tool user. Verbal warning to be constantly aware of others – particularly when bending down.
Putting tools down – injury to feet. Tripping, standing on tool.	All	M	Tools to be put down carefully – not stabbed in to ground. Tools should be placed somewhere upright where they will not fall down. If it is necessary to lie on ground they must be laid face down. Instruction and verbal warning.
Moving soil/ sand etc Injury from tools and soil/sand in eyes	All	L	Spades and shovels to be kept below waist height. Soil / sand not to be tossed into the barrow. Wheel barrow to be placed away from other people. Two metre spacing between workers. No more than 2 students unless an adult is present.
Moving material in wheel barrow – injury to others, strain injury to user	All	L	Do not over fill wheel barrow. Move carefully to destination – be aware of others. Do not rush and always face forwards. Keep away from other workers. Instruction and verbal warning.
Using small hand tools	All	L	Keep half metre distance away from any other worker. Keep tool at ground level at all times. Never leave on path – place tool on raised bed or other appropriate surface.

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Moving/use of motor mower – injury to hands, feet or back	All	L	See separate risk assessment for machinery use. Mower only used or moved under supervision. Correct lifting procedures used. Gloves and appropriate footwear worn. Mower stored in a locked shed.
Fuel for motor mower – spillage, fire.	All	L	Stored in a secure, locked location. Only handled with adult supervision. Fire precautions observed.
Fire in the polytunnel, shed or any part of the garden.	All	M	Immediate evacuation to Fire Point at the garden gate. Cut through polytunnel if necessary. A head count will be done before an adult assesses whether to move to the Farm car park. No child or student should tackle the fire. Adult to assess whether the use of the garden hose can eliminate a small fire, otherwise call the fire brigade. Inform the Farm staff.
Storm Kettle - injury by burning from fire or hot water	All	M	Any child under 12 years old to be supervised one to one in cooking area. Children over 12 to be supervised one to two. Only adults to handle matches. Matches to be kept in a container and kept away from children. No children under three years old. Proper space around kettle or stove. Kettle to be used in wheelbarrow to ensure space around kettle and to ensure fire can be moved if necessary. Bucket of water to be kept nearby. Instruction before use and repeated at every use - dangers explained ie fire in middle of kettle, feeding fire from top and side. Kettle not to be overfilled with water – to avoid boiling over. Blowing of flames only done by member of staff.
African cookstove and tasting nsima – injury from burning	All	L	All children to be constantly supervised in cooking area. Only adults to handle matches. Matches to be kept in a container and kept away from children. Proper space observed around stove. Children to remain seated and only one child allowed at a time to closely observe cookstove under adult instruction.. Each child to have a separate clean spoon . An adult to check the temperature of the nsima before tasting. Only adults to hold the pan. The hot pan to be taken of the stove and placed away from where the children are seated – within an area that the children do not walk.
African firewood collecting	students	L	Student carrying firewood on back must be given space the length of the firewood bundle away from other people. Verbal warning to other children to stand away from the person carrying the bundle. To be supervised at all times.
African: carrying water	students	L	Safe lifting applies – children instructed on bending knees and lifting with their legs. Supervised at all times.

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