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| **To be read in conjunction with other related risk assessments & policies/procedures.**  **NB: It is accepted that this risk benefit assessment is applicable to everyone attending the programme** | | | | | | |
| **Name of person compiling this risk benefit assessment: xx** | | | | | | |
| **Please state the benefits to the children of offering this experience?**  Outdoor Learning aims to increase children’s self confidence and to give them a can do attitude. Climbing trees independently supports this aim, as it enables children to manage their own risks and to make their own choices, giving them a sense of achievement when completed**.** Climbing offers an opportunity for physical activity and the development of gross motor skills. Being in a tree enables children to get close to nature, is a multi-sensory activity and is often described as a calming and reflective experience. | | | | | | |
| **Probability Score:**   1. <5% chance that it will occur – very unlikely 2. 25% chance that it will occur 3. 50% chance that it will occur 4. 75% chance that it will occur 5. >95% chance that it will occur – very likely | | **Severity Score**   1. Not serious – no first aid required 2. Minor Injury – requiring basic first aid 3. Injury – requiring non immediate professional medical attention 4. Serious injury/multiple injuries – requiring immediate medical attention 5. Major accident – multiple injuries or fatality | | | **Calculate the risk levels:**  The rating is calculated from the probability multiplied by the severity which will give a rating between **1 & 25.**  Our company will not be carrying out any activities deemed to have **a revised rating of over 12** as they are deemed too dangerous even with control measures in place. | |
| **Hazard** | **Harm** | | **Risk Rating prior to control measures**  **(Probability x Severity = )** | **Control measures to reduce the risk and actioned by whom?** | | **Revised Risk Rating (Probability x Severity = )** |
| Fall from height | Major accident –  Cuts, bruises, strains, sprains, broken bones, spinal injury, head injury, damage to internal organs, bleeding, death | | 4x5=20 | Safety talk and advice given on safe tree climbing techniques, how to test branch strength and indicators of dead wood, verbal reminders before each session.  CT to be responsible for checking trees on site before any OL session to check for damage or broken branches and to check ground under trees for sharp roots, rocks or branches.  CT to check trees for any nests or dreys; birds, wasps, ants or other insects, squirrels.  Teaching staff to remind children trees will be slippery in wet weather.  Children limited to climbing to their own height, from the ground.  Teaching staff to limit number of children climbing a tree at a time, dependent on tree size.  Children to climb unaided, adults cannot offer to lift children up into trees.  At least one member of staff to hold an up to date and relevant first aid qualification.  CT to be responsible for checking the first aid kit is fully stocked.  OTL to be responsible for creating an emergency location document to facilitate the location and access by the emergency services. CT to communicate its location and use to all participants.  The school will be responsible for making sure there is a way of communicating with the school and/or emergency services, such as a working mobile phone. | | 2x5=10 |
| Hit by falling branch | Major accident –  Cuts, bruises, strains, sprains, broken bones, spinal injury, head injury, damage to internal organs, bleeding, crush injury, asphyxiation, death | | 3x5=15 | CT to be responsible for site check before any OL session and to check trees for damage or signs of broken branches.  All teaching staff are responsible for being vigilant and for observing possible hazards that may arise during an OL session.  In the event of a broken branch or dead wood observed in the canopy, all participants must be made aware and advised accordingly. | | 1x5=5 |
| Clothing / Footwear / Hair | Major accident –  Fall from height injuries, asphyxiation, death | | 4x5=20 | Children and staff to be aware of minimum standards of clothing and footwear suitable for OL activities.  Any child wearing unsuitable clothing, eg something with lots of loose parts or with cords that could become entangled, will be required to get changed or not take part in this activity.  Any child wearing shoes not suitable for tree climbing, such as wellies, will be required to change their footwear or not take part in this activity.  Children with long hair will need to tie it back before commencing this activity. | | 1x5=5 |
| Insect bites and  stings/bird strikes/animal bites | Major accident –  Rash, swelling, bites, cuts, anaphylaxis, death | | 3x5=15 | CT to check trees before the OL session for obvious signs of any nests or dreys; birds, wasps, ants or other insects, squirrels.  Safety talk to remind children to avoid nests and to not touch or disturb them.  Any participant with a known severe allergy to bites and stings will come to the OL session with an in date auto injector which will be kept in the first aid area. All teaching staff will be aware of who has an auto injector and what they are allergic to for each session. | | 1x5=5 |
| Contact with hazardous plants and berries | Major accident – rash, swelling, irritation to skin or eyes, blisters, poisoning, death | | 3x5=15 | OLT to carry out site survey and identify any hazardous plants. CT to be responsible for checking with OLT to be advised.  Safety talk to show children where hazardous plants are.  Visual and written aids used to help children identify poisonous plants and berries.  All teaching staff to be aware of any allergies of participants.  All teaching staff to remind children that they are not to put any plant parts in their mouth or to eat them, unless told it is ok to by the CT.  Hand washing facilities available at all times.  Children encouraged to wash hands before eating. | | 1x5=5 |
| Any further information which needs to be noted: If the area is to be used by multiple classes during a day the CT of the first class using the site is responsible for carrying out the site check.  Please note – Repton Manor Primary School operate under a dynamic risk assessing process which is the continuous process of identifying hazards, assessing risk, taking action to eliminate or reduce risk, monitoring and reviewing, in the rapidly changing environment of the natural world | | | | | | |

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| Signed: | Position: | Date: |

This assessment is reviewed annually unless accident/incident occurs requiring immediate review.