



Dynamic Risk Assessment: Covid 19

This Risk Assessment should be read in conjunction with current Govt. guidelines and school or setting risk assessments.

The Forest School Association advises that:

- alcohol gel is particularly unsuitable in a Forest School setting where hands are likely to be covered in mud and soil. A Tippy Tap is recommended. (Plastic bottle converted so that there can be a flow of water to wash hands with.)

The FSA believes that due to the nature of Forest School sessions and facilitating the play needs of children and young people, the most appropriate precaution which can be taken is to create and maintain learner 'bubbles'.

		Level of Risk
What are the benefits of the activity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting with nature • Developing resilience • Enjoying being outside and exploring 	
What are the hazards of the activity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spread of covid-19 during forest school session • Contracting the virus within a group setting • Further cross-contamination within the community 	High risk
Who is at risk?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All who attend the sessions children and adults. • The wider community that attendees come into contact with after the sessions. 	
Measures taken to reduce risk levels?	<p>Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents and carers to be reminded to follow social distancing guidelines and to be especially vigilant at times when this maybe difficult- entering/leaving the site, pack up times, etc • Parents and carers to be responsible for checking their children are social distancing from others not in their household • Games that would involve physical contact will not be planned • A tippy tap will be used for hand washing. We will use warm water, 	Medium risk

	<p>soap and individual towels. Handwashing will be carried out frequently, especially at the beginning of the session, before eating, after sneezing or coughing. The towels will be washed at the end of the session. The tap will be cleaned regularly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• children will be encouraged to spread out around the site and this will be checked regularly to make sure they are social distancing• No materials or tools will be brought from the children’s homes only those from The Hedgehog Club can be used. <p>Materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At the time of writing, it is understood that the Covid-19 virus cannot live on surfaces outside for more than 72 hours. Therefore, outdoor equipment, natural resources left outside, etc. are deemed “virus free” if left unused for this period of time.• Some equipment will be removed from the sessions such as blankets, hammocks.• Tools and resources will be disinfected frequently and in between children- using a cloth and suitable spray cleaner. Children will place resources in the dirty tools bucket after use for cleaning. These will not be shared with other children.	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where possible children will have their own equipment to use for the session which will be cleaned at the end ready for use the next time.• Food and drink should not be shared and children.• During snack time one adult will serve the drinks and biscuits to all the others, they will wear gloves.• All children and adults will bring their own cups.• The preparer will wear gloves while preparing food and drinks. It will be served individually with separate utensils, plates etc being provided. These will not be shared.• The number around the fire cooking will be limited in order to facilitate social distancing <p>We are informing people to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">☑ Follow the NHS recommendations.☑ Not attend the sessions if they fall into one or more of the vulnerable groups listed by the NHS (including drop off and pick up).☑ Stay away for at least 14 days if they or any member of their household has a high temperature or even a mild cough☑ Not share food and drink but bring their own. <p>We are actively and regularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">☑ Designing sessions that take COVID-19 into	
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	<p>account. Omitting equipment that is shared or that encourages close contact with the face.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces ☑ Informing ourselves of updated HSE & Govt advice and following accordingly ☑ Providing correct hand sanitizer and hygiene facilities which are easy for the children to use ☑ Keeping an open and informed dialogue with participants 	
<p>If a child or adult develops symptoms during a session</p>	<p>The government guidance states that: When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms compatible with coronavirus (COVID-19), they should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 7 days and arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus COVID-19. They can do this by visiting NHS.UK to arrange or contact NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access. Their fellow household members should self-isolate for 14 days.</p> <p>Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to the setting and the fellow household members can end their self-isolation.</p> <p>If the child, young person or staff member tests negative but is unwell, they should not</p>	

	<p>return to that setting until they are recovered.</p> <p>Where the child, young person or staff member tests positive, NHS Test and Trace will speak directly to those they have been in contact with to offer advice. This advice may be that the rest of their class or group within the setting should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days.</p> <p>If anyone in the household develops a fever, or a new continuous cough, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they are advised to follow the COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection guidance (which states that the ill person should remain in isolation for 7 days and the rest of the household in isolation for 14 days).”</p>	
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Risk assessment prepared by Mandy Warwick

Date of assessment: 6th July 2020

Review date: whenever new guidance is issued. (At least every 3 weeks.)

Reviewed 4th August 2020

Reviewed 19th August 2020

Reviewed 16th Feb 2021