



Covid -19 Risk Benefit Assessment

Dynamic Risk Benefit Assessment: Covid -19

Assessed by: E Brock

Date: Nov 5th 2020

Benefits of being engaged in an outdoor activity in natural environment:

Being outdoors in nature reduces stress, keeps immunity strong, builds resilience and community, keeps us physically healthy.

Forest school builds confidence, social skills, motivation and concentration, physical skills, knowledge and understanding, stress relief, connection to nature and independence.

Value Added Benefits:

Staff-student relationships, staff skills development, alternative source of recreation to digital media, fitness and health

UK Gov Guidelines:

As of 5th Nov 2020 There will be a second lock down in England.

COVID-19 case numbers are rising rapidly across the whole of the UK and in other countries. We must act now to control the spread of the virus. The single most important action we can all take, in fighting coronavirus, is to stay at home, to protect the NHS and save lives.

When we reduce our day-to-day contact with other people, we will reduce the spread of the infection. That is why, from Thursday 5 November until Wednesday 2 December, the Government is taking the following action:

Requiring people to stay at home, except for specific purposes.

Preventing gathering with people you do not live with, except for specific purposes.

Closing certain businesses and venues.

These new measures have been carefully judged to achieve the maximum reduction in growth in the number of cases, preventing the NHS from being overwhelmed, whilst ensuring that schools, colleges and universities stay open and that as many people as possible continue to work.

However Some venues will be allowed to remain open for specific exempt activities, **like childcare and support groups. Support groups that are essential to deliver in person can continue with up to 15 participants where formally organised to provide mutual aid, therapy or any other form of support.** This includes support to victims of crime, people in drug and alcohol recovery, new parents and guardians, people with long-term illnesses, people facing issues relating to their sexuality or gender, and those who have suffered bereavement.

NHS recommendations:

- Wash hands regularly with soap and water (hand sanitizer if not possible to wash effectively)
- Catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue or use your sleeve. Bin tissues immediately. Wash hands
- Self-isolate if showing any symptoms of Covid 19 (high temperature, cough, anosmia) for 14 days

FSA guidance:

Government has acknowledged that “the risk of transmission outdoors is significantly lower”.

Forest School session should not proceed without suitable hand washing facilities. Tippy tap of similar and soap.

Hazard and to whom	Likelihood (1-5)	Hazard severity (1-5)	Risk factor (1-5)	Control measures to reduce the risk	Residual risk factor
<p>Spread of Covid -19 during forest school</p> <p>Contraction of the virus within a group setting</p> <p>Further cross contamination within the community</p>	3	3	9	<p>We are informing people to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Follow the NHS recommended listed above *Not attend the sessions if they fall into one or more of the vulnerable groups listed by the NHS (including drop off and pick ups) *stay away for at least 14 days if they or any member of their household has a high temperature or even a mild cough <p>We are actively and regularly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hand washing at the start of the session, before snacks, after snacks, before an activity IF using tools 2 x handwashing systems on site- soap dispenser pump action as well as soap on a rope. 2. Do not come to FS if feeling unwell -add to form for parents to sign 3. Cleaning and disinfecting objects and surfaces (tools, toilets, mats) at regular intervals.... in i.e. tools for a second group to use, mud kitchen equipment. 4. Widen the log circle 5. Siblings/families to sit together and spaced apart. 6. Informing ourselves of updated HSE and govt advice and to follow accordingly 7. limit hot cooked snacks on the fire...instead pre-packed and wrapped snacks per child, in paper bags. Children not to prepare their own snacks to cook on the fire 	7

				<p>snack bags prepared 72hrs in advance and out in air tight container, prepared wearing gloves.</p> <p>8. Children to bring own drink/cup/lunch at HC paper cups given out at LE/HE.</p> <p>9. Follow NHS recommendations listed above</p> <p>10. Keeping open and informed dialogue with participants and parents/carers.</p> <p>11. At HC parents/carers to fill in and sign a new consent form with RA attached.</p> <p>12. Children at camp to split into 'pods' siblings and friends to stay and work together as much as possible especially on focused activities.</p> <p>13. Hammocks -sprayed at the end of the day with pump action dispenser (Dettol/bio friendly spray), hammocks allocated to pods at HC.</p> <p>16. Reducing group sizes at Forest school to 15 participants (adults).</p> <p>17. Parents must adhere to social distancing and be respectful of the 2 metre rule when attending a forest school session with their children, such as Little Explorers/babes in the wood.</p> <p>18. leader to sanitise hands and wear face mask between each child when toasting marshmallows.</p> <p>19. leader to give out drinks and snack bags wearing mask.</p>		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--