

SETTING NAME: TINY TOTS Ltd

AREA: WOODLAND

This must be read in conjunction with the COVID Risk Assessment. Anything in red has been added to this RA.

AGE RANGE: 3 months -4 years Nursery and 5 years - 11 years Holiday Club

DATE: July 2020

REVIEW DATE: July 2021

Take the *nursery register, mobile phone, first aid kit, washing station resources, **cleaning resources**, nappy changing bag and change of clothes bag*. Register and count the children before leaving, count the children on regular intervals during the trip and register when leaving and then back at the Nursery. When the children enter the woodland, they start by sitting around the fire circle, ready for their morning/afternoon chat about what they are doing for the day. This is when a safety talk will take place, to make sure all of the boundaries and dangers within the woodland environment are spoken about. Position staff accordingly.

Hazard	Person at risk	Risk to consider	How can the risk be reduced?	H/ M/L	Who is responsible?
Woodland play area	Children	Litter Nettles & Brambles	Control hazards by surveying the area, looking for nettles and brambles – remove if necessary, any disturbance from animals on the woodland floor – cordon area and remove rubbish.	L	Appointed member of staff.
Hand Washing	Children Adults	Spreading infection	Posters are displayed in the woodland at the hand washing station and in the tent reminding children, staff and (visitors) to wash their hands. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children, staff and (visitors) are encouraged to wash their hands with soap or alcohol-based sanitiser (that contains no less than 60 percent alcohol) and follow infection control procedures in accordance with the DfE and Government guidance.• Sufficient amounts of soap (or hand sanitiser where applicable), clean water and paper towels are supplied at the hand washing station.• Children are supervised by staff when		

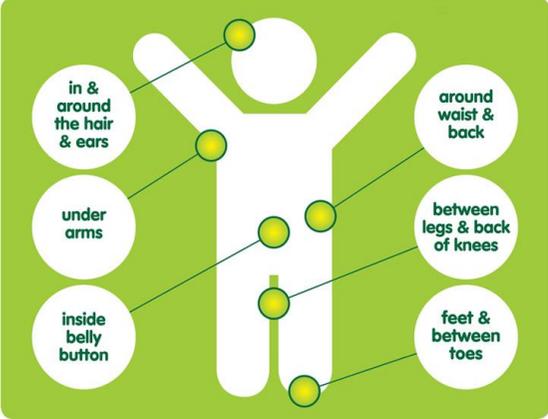
			washing their hands to ensure it is done correctly.		
Cleaning shared resources	Children Adults	Poor housekeeping Spread of infection	<p>Shared resources required for play and learning experiences of children should be regularly washed and/or sterilised before the next bubble/cohort of children use them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loose Part play will be limited to resources that can be washed. • Water play in shared trays of standing water will be suspended. Water play will be limited to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single use by an individual - In Small quantities in the mud kitchen for pouring and mixing. Antibacterial detergent should be added. <p>At the end of a session before the next bubble/cohort of children use this area, clean down surfaces using soap & water.</p>		
Cleaning the Mud Kitchen					
Weather	Children Adults	Getting too cold or warm. Too windy Falling trees and branches	<p>Ensure the children are warm and comfortable and are wearing a jumper, waterproof jacket and trousers. This should be adapted in the summer months.</p> <p>If the winds are high the trip to the woods should be aborted. A weather check must be carried out and recorded before the decision is made to take the children to the woods if there are high winds. If the winds get high whilst already in the woodland and branches start to fall, we will leave the woodland immediately. There isn't any legislation however the Forest School rule is above 40 mph.</p>	L L	Lead practitioner
Lost child	Children	Losing a child Getting separated from the group	<p>Introduction Talk about any possible dangers when walking too and playing in the woods. Discuss the importance of staying together with their 'buddy'.</p> <p>Registration</p>	L	Lead practitioner

		Crossing the boundary	<p>Children MUST be registered at the nursery and when they arrive in the base camp, when visiting/leaving other areas of the woods, when leaving the woods to return to nursery and when they are back in the nursery. Headcount throughout the session.</p> <p>Procedures walking to the woods An adult always leads the group and then other adults are positioned amongst the children with one adult at the rear. Enter the woodland through the security gate ensuring that is closed behind the group.</p> <p>Boundaries At the woods talk about staying inside the boundaries. These are orange coloured pieces of ribbon hung in the trees around the base camp area, so they are visible to all users. These to be updated each year.</p> <p>Policy Please refer to Lost Child Policy.</p>		
Parachute Tent	Children Adults	Injury because the tent is not secured	Inspect the central pole and guide ropes daily during routine checks. Report to the Forest School Leader if there is any damage or the equipment is starting to fail.	L	All staff
Pathway	Children Adults	Slipping, falling	As the path becomes worn and muddy it will be slippery. Regular checks and monitoring. If slippery more bark will need to be added.	L	All staff
Uneven surfaces	Children Adults	Tripping, falling	With the children discuss and identify where the ground becomes uneven or there is a change of surface. Is it a tripping hazard? How do they tell the group? – hand signals/voice?	L	Staff Children
Hedge	Children	Sting, irritant Injury because of loose stones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Regular checks ● Removal of nettles and brambles to be carried out by an adult, gloves must be worn. ● Check for any loose stones in the hedge. <p>All Plants/Trees that are in the woodland or garden area, are made safe by being removed if poisonous or cut back for a safe area of use. All children are made aware of these at each session, and we use our poisonous plants chart to refer back to and ID</p>	L	All Staff

			when needed.		
Animal habitats	Children Adults	Tripping Infectious diseases	Identify where animals have made their habitats, if they are not in the hedge-line mark accordingly. Especially if holes have been made within the play area. Children must wash hands on their return.	L	All staff
Trees/branches	Children Adults	Head/Eye Injuries	Woodland management: To cut branches at eye level and annually remove unwanted trees.	L	Management
Seating logs Balancing logs	Children	Falling	Model what to do in each area; logs for sitting and logs for balancing. Teach the children how to balance and jump off the balance log. Holding the hands of children who are less confident. Encourage the children to risk assess if the log is too wet and slippery.	L	All staff Children
Boundary logs		Crushing	To remain in place and not rolled across the woodland. The logs are not play logs because they are too large.	L	
Hammocks			Before use the hammocks/ropes must be checked for fraying or if they have become loose. When using the hammocks, show the children how they are to be used (bottoms first followed by legs) to prevent children from falling out. Children must lie down in the hammocks when in use. Hammocks can be gently swung.	L	
Wooden Platform	Children Adults	Slipping	Totally avoid this area. Action: remove platform	M	All staff Children
Collecting woodland objects / treasures	Children	Choking, putting items in their mouths. Scratches, picking up inappropriate objects.	Woodland rules: Nil by mouth: nothing should be eaten from the woodland. No touching/eating of poisonous plants/trees to include wild cherries. Do not pass the ribbons in the base camp area, these are our boundaries. You can climb trees, but only when an adult is present, and to a safe height.	L	All staff Children

<p>Small Natural Loose Part: Acorns</p>			<p>When playing with sticks these are to be kept low and pointing down if walking with them. Only enter the stream with an adult. When Den Building, make sure the structure is safe before entering it.</p> <p>Children are taught and made aware of possible hazards, such as the holly, nettles, wild cherries and brambles. Staff to talk to the children about certain hazards while sitting around the fire circle at the beginning of each session. Encourage the children to become part of the risk assessing process. Make this part of their Forest School routine each week.</p> <p>Supervision Anything too small, such as acorns or wild cherries etc. must be kept out of reach of children under three. A visual sweep of the woodland base camp MUST be carried out before the children are allowed to play independently. Staff should always closely supervise the children when they are exploring natural loose parts that are found on the woodland floor.</p> <p>To remove the hazard of small natural loose parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anything too small, such as conkers, acorns etc. must be kept out of reach of children unless they are using them during a supervised activity, which has been risk assessed. • To record daily checks and use each visit. See attached daily check chart. 		<p>05/07/19</p>
<p>Foraging</p>	<p>Children/Adults</p>	<p>Ingesting or collecting poisonous plants</p>	<p>This must be fully risk assessed and validated by the Forest School Leader. Whilst harvesting natural plants the children must not ingest anything. This activity must be supervised at all times. The following examples can be used: Blackberries, Wild Cherries and Elderflower</p>	<p>L</p>	<p>All Staff</p>

			for cordial or jam. Avoid collecting mushrooms and always check the plant audit.		
Woodland Stream and banks	Children/Adults	Drowning, slipping and falling, stuck in the mud, falling off the banks, being hit by a thrown stone.	<p>An initial assessment is made of the stream focussing on its depth, the speed of the water and any trip hazards.</p> <p>Adults must accompany the children into the stream and remain with them at all times. Each activity using the stream will be individually risk assessed, which must be shown on the weekly planning.</p> <p>Ratio/Positioning</p> <p>1 member of staff positioned where children enter. 1 member staff leading the children downstream. 1 member of staff positioned on the bank.</p> <p>Holiday Club children, they like to walk along the banks and climb on fallen trees by the stream. They are always with an adult but are able to assess their own risks with an adult's help. Boundaries are set and the children are told where they can climb and explore.</p>	L	All Staff
Tree Climbing	Children/Adults	Falling from trees, branches breaking when climbing, children at the bottom of the tree getting hurt from fallen branches. Scratches and cuts Broken bones. Head injuries.	<p>Nursery children can climb specific trees with adult help and supervision. They are given a safety talk on how to always have three parts of the body touching the tree at all times. The three point touch - using arms and legs. The height of the climb is limited to no further than the height of themselves.</p> <p>Holiday club children will take more risks when climbing trees and will know their own abilities. They will always be with an adult and will not climb trees unless an adult is present. Children should not climb higher than adults can reach.</p>	L	All Staff
Tyre Wall & Slackline		Falling, fractures, head injuries	Children must be supervised. The adult must be in close proximity to the child so they are supported across the obstacle. One child at a time on the obstacle.		

			The ropes safely secured and checked regularly.		
Mudslide/Bank	Children/Adults	Slipping, falling, ripping clothes, child getting stuck in the mud.	Children are supervised at all times by the mudslides and while playing on the banks by the streams. These areas are checked for sharp stones, roots and other debris before the children use them.	L	All staff
Ticks		Lyme Disease	<p>Ticks can sometimes pass on disease to humans, including Lyme disease. Not all ticks carry disease. Removing ticks quickly and safely greatly reduces any risk of illness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Just carefully check for ticks after a visit to the woodland. • If parents pick up from the woods ask them to complete the check.  <p>If found, record on an accident/incident form and pass on a tick information sheet to parents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the tick as soon as possible • The safest way to remove a tick is to use a tick removal tool. <p>Inform parents to keep an eye on the bite site. If a large red rash develops, or if you feel unwell, tell your doctor your child has been bitten by a tick. (Note: A small, itchy spot is a</p>	L	All staff

			normal reaction to a tick bite).		
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