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| **Activity, Principle or Object** | **Benefits** | **Risks** | **Local factors** | **Decision** | **Actions** | **Ongoing management** | **Links** |
| Tree Climbing – Forest school area | Pleasure it gives children.  Health, wellbeing and confidence.  Upper body strength.  Contact with nature and appreciation for the environment. Recognition of risk factors. Social skills. | Injuries:  Scratches from tree branches or bark. Bruises from bumps and falls. Increased risk from children who require support depending on ability. Slips. Injuries from lower level branches.  Cuts from sharp/snapped branches.  Potential damage to trees.  Complaints from local residents.  Risk of claims. | Types of tree  Thickness of branches  Location of trees  Weather  Age and ability of child. Ground conditions - objects under the tree, frozen or wet ground. | Children are allowed to climb trees, but must follow agreed rules. | W/C 7th September – Red tape placed around the trees to show children which trees they can climb and how far their feet can go.  Information shared in OPAL assembly W/C  W/C 17.09.18 Tree survey completed by NCC. Some trees removed or deemed not to climb children made aware of this. Ranging supervision. No more than one person at one time. Children encouraged to risk assess. | Annual tree surveys  Staff to risk assess trees regularly during duties for weak branches, damaged trees or broken branches with sharp edges. | OPAL tree climbing poster (OPAL drive)  Assembly PPT 17.09.18  24.09.18 |
| Tyres | Pleasure it gives children.  Health, wellbeing and confidence.  Upper body strength.  Coordination to control rolling the tyre.  Aim to get it to go where you want it to.  Building material. | Injuries:  Bruises and bumps caused by tyres falling onto feet, or rolling tyres rolling to people.  Damage to fences if tyres are rolled with force.  Risk of claims. | Size of tyre, weight of tyre, size of hill for rolling. | Children are allowed to play with tyres as long as they followed the agreed rules (OPAL assembly 24.09.18) | Children introduced to the tyres through OPAL assembly 24.09.18.  Agreed rules decided:  DO – Roll them along the ground or small inclines (remembrance hill), check that the coast is clear, use them for building.  DON’T - Don’t stack higher than 3 tall. Don’t roll them with someone inside, Don’t throw them. | Observation of how children are using the tyres during play times and intervention from play leaders if necessary. | OPAL assembly 24.09.18 |
| Wooden blocks- ASDA crates | Pleasure it gives children.  Transporting materials. Building possibly linked to role play (kitchen or garage equipment). | Injuries:  Bumps or bruises from falling crates. Getting fingers caught in between crates when stacking.  Cuts from broken or sharp edges.  Risk of claims. | Weather - wind  Uneven surfaces. | Children can use milk crates for building and role play as long as they follow the agreed rules. (OPAL assembly 24.09.18) | Children introduced to the milk crates through OPAL assembly 24.09.18.  Agreed rules decided:DO – Stack them, build with them, use them as stepping stones (one high).  DON’T - Don’t stack higher than your head. Don’t roll or throw them. Don’t stand on a stack of them. | Staff to regularly assess the condition of milk crates and remove cracked or broken ones. | OPAL assembly 24.09.18 |
| Logs | Pleasure it gives children. Building, role play seating or equipment. Bug hunting. | Injuries: Bumps or bruises from logs being dropped on toes.  Scratches, or splinters from bark or sharp edges. Risk of claims. | Size of log  Type of tree. | Children can use logs as long as they follow the agreed rules (OPAL assembly 24.09.18) | Children introduced to the logs through OPAL assembly 24.09.18.  Agreed Rules: DO – Build small structures with them. Use them for pretend games.  DON’T - Don’t stand them up on their side if they’re taller than your knee. Don’t throw them. Don’t roll them down hills. Don’t stack them on top of each other. Don’t carry them if they’re too heavy. | Staff to regularly assess the condition of logs and how the children are playing with them and intervene or remove if necessary. | OPAL assembly 24.09.18 |
| Buckets and water containers | Pleasure it gives children. Building water courses, general building. | Injuries: Cuts or scratches from broken or sharp edges.  Risk of claims. | Size of guttering  Type of guttering. | Children can use guttering as long as they follow the agreed rules (OPAL assembly 24.09.18) | Children introduced to the guttering through OPAL assembly 24.09.18.  Agreed Rules: DO – Build with them. Use them to trap and change the flow of water. Do drag them behind you to transport them.  DON’T – Don’t carry them – drag them instead. Don’t play with them if they have sharp edges (tell a grown up). | Staff to regularly assess the condition of guttering and remove broken or cracked guttering if necessary. | OPAL assembly 24.09.18 |
| Bricks/ stones/ rocks | Construction, Real World Play, Role Play, Strength, Coordination, Pattern. | Injuries: Bruises, fractures or breaks from dropped bricks on toes.  Risk of claims. | Size of bricks. Weight of bricks. | Children can use bricks as long as they followed the agreed rules (OPAL Assembly 15.10.18) | Children introduced to the bricks through OPAL assembly 15.10.18.  Agreed Rules: DO – Watch out for toes; Use two hands when carrying and keep at waist height; Build small structures; Stack sideways up to two high.  DON’T – Don’t carry more than one at a time. Don’t throw them. Don’t stack them lengthways. | Staff to observe how children are interacting with the bricks and intervene if necessary. | OPAL assembly 15.10.18 |
| Pushchairs/ suitcases | Role play, enjoyment, motor skills, coordination, strength. | Injuries: Cuts, scratches, bruises, bumps, fractures and broken bones from falling out of the pushchair or suitcase when it’s moving.  Risk of claims. Getting fingers caught in mechanisms, straps or zips. | Wet weather | Children are allowed to use the suitcases and pushchairs for role play as well as pulling each other along in them as long as they follow the agreed rules. | Children introduced to the pushchairs and suitcases through OPAL assembly 21.01.19  Agreed Rules:  Keep the zipper open if someone is inside. Keep it upright. Being careful with straps – avoid placing around neck/limbs. When pushing with someone inside, stay on a flat surface and walk. Show respect – if you think what you’re doing in damaging the equipment stop. | Staff to supervise to check that children are using equipment appropriately. | OPAL assembly 21.01.19 |
| Scooters/ bikes | motor skills, coordination  strength | Injuries: Cuts, scratches, bruises, bumps, fractures and broken bones from falling out off the bike/scooter  Risk of claims. Getting fingers caught in mechanisms. | Weather. Wet and slippy | Children can use with set rules on direction of travel and sharing and timed. | OPAL assembly 24.10.18  Agreed Rules:  Keep to the set lines and areas  After five minutes swap  MUST wear helmet  Must check bike over before and after. | Staff to observe how children are interacting with the bikes and intervene if necessary. Staff member of bottom yard to also report any faults etc. | OPAL assembly |
| Boat | Role play, enjoyment, motor skills, coordination, strength. | Injuries: Cuts, scratches, bruises, bumps, fractures and broken bones from falling off the boat  Risk of claims. Getting fingers caught in parts or spelks | Weather  Also wet damage and erosion. | Children can use the boat to play in and role play. Not to be used for climbing. | Agreed Rules:  Sit in  No hanging from the poles  No jumping off boat | Staff to observe how children are interacting with the boat and intervene if necessary. Staff member of field to also report any faults etc.  Playground annual inspection to check it. | OPAL assembly |
| Stage area | Role play, enjoyment, | Injuries: Cuts, scratches, bruises, bumps, fractures and broken bones from falling and slipping on the stage | Weather  Also wet damage and erosion. | Children can use when not wet or slippy | Agreed Rules:  Sit in  No use in icy conditions | .  Playground annual inspection to check it. | Opal assembly |
| Lock up and shed | Storage and safety | Injuries: Cuts, scratches, bruises, bumps, fractures and broken bones from being jammed fingers in it moving.  Risk of claims.  jammed in door | Door can get stiff in poor weather – heavy door | Adults to supervise the equipment going away and out. Playground should be set up by adults. | Staff to supervise  Not to lock each other in or close the doors – adults do this only. | Staff to supervise the in and out of equipment at all times! |  |
| Invention shed – also lose parts | Role play creativity  enjoyment | Injuries: Cuts, scratches, bruises, bumps, fractures and broken bones from being jammed fingers in it moving.  Risk of claims.  jammed in door | Needs replenished often. | Children can use under supervision | Staff to supervise use of materials and encourage rubbish | Staff to supervise the in and out of equipment at all times! | OPAL assembly |