


Department: <u>FRASERBURGH SOUTH PARK SCHOOL NURSERY</u>				RISK ASSESSMENT					
Process/Activity: Construction/Block Play Area				Location: Block play area/ nursery			Date: Ongoing		
Describe activity: Building with blocks and a variety of loose materials within the Block play area and in nursery				Assessor Name: V. Stephen, L. Cameron, J. Whyte, K. Chicken, M. Stephen, N. Wallace, Mrs Stephen, K, Barclay, S. Crane, L. Parker			Reviewed: September 2023 Update as necessary		
Hazard	Person/s Affected	Risk	Risk level before controls are in place			Control Measures	Risk level after controls are in place		
			Low	Med	High		Low	Med	High
Spillage of construction material	Children Staff	Tripping hazard Physical injury	Low	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children encouraged to be careful/aware of others around them when playing with construction. Always encouraged to begin building on a flat surface and children involved in discussions around this Ample space ensured by staff Intervention only if necessary – move other items to allow space for creativity. 	Low	Med	High
Building high objects	Children Staff	Physical injury	Low	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children prompted to be careful when building high towers. All children aware of how to be safe – ask an adult for help if you cannot reach. Children encouraged not to knock down other's towers and risks of injury explained and discussed to promote understanding. Should a high number of 	Low	Med	High

						accidents/incidents occur staff and children discuss why ensuring children are included in decision making progress.			
Loose parts	Children Staff/Adults	Choking hazard Tripping hazard	Low	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Loose/Real parts risk assessment. 	Low	Med	High

Benefits

- Children are learning consistently when building with blocks – mathematically, physically (building gross/fine motor skills), problem solving, team building, co-operation, early science etc Block play covers all aspects of the curriculum
- Children are continually learning to assess risk whilst taking care of their materials.
- Creations are photographed and displayed in the block play book to celebrate achievements.
- Creative opportunities are unlimited due to variety of items available and ability to choose items from other areas.
- Children are encouraged to add to the block play with other items and be as creative as they wish
- Encouragement to tidy up after themselves when completed builds mathematical skills, spatial awareness, and resilience.
- Supports use of imagination with correct input from staff
- Staff role is essential – when to step in and when to step back.