


Department: <u>FRASERBURGH SOUTH PARK SCHOOL NURSERY</u>				RISK ASSESSMENT					
Process/Activity: Use of Fire bowl/pit/fire building activities				Location: Fraserburgh South Park School and local community			Date: Ongoing		
Describe activity: Classes from Nursery to P7 using fire making/building activities under supervision of adults				Assessor Name: V. Stephen, L. Cameron, M. Stephen, N. Wallace, Mrs Stephen J. Whyte, K. Chicken, S. Crane, K. Barclay, L. Parker			Reviewed: September 2023		
Hazard	Person/s Affected	Risk	Risk level before controls are in place			Control Measures	Risk level after controls are in place		
Tripping/falling onto firepit	Children	Over excited children may move around	Low	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area surrounding fire to be cordoned off or verbal and visual boundaries in place – chalk, rope, placement of kneeling mats. Increased adult/child ratio Firm instructions and discussion on dangers and modelling safety Safety procedures to be discussed with children prior to each fire pit experience. 	Low	Med	High
	Staff	Unsupervised children may not be aware of dangers							
Burns/spitting fire	All	Burns from fire	Low	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1M area surrounding fire to be cordoned off with rope or a chalk line. Fire safety kit to hand/burn kit to hand One child at a time near fire 	Low	Med	High

						<p>bowl supervised by adult – up to 3 with adults at fire pit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow fire to cool before moving after use. • Red heat gloves/bottle of water or spade for sand/soil to put fire out with 			
Smoke Inhalation	All	Smoke	Low	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use fire bowl in sheltered area where possible. • Do not use if too windy. • Children and adults well back from bowl or moved to safer place if smoke begins to blow. • All children away from fire before water is poured which causes an increase in smoke 	Low	Med	High
Fire Spreading	All	Surrounding area catching fire	Low	Med	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire bowl placed on firm surface • Bottle of water on hand to put fire out • Fire bowl placed in a risk assessed area – not close to long dry grass, trees etc. • Use bottle of water to pour over fire or shovel for sand/soil to ensure fire is out before leaving premises • Adult supervision at firebowl/pit at all times. 	Low	Med	High

Benefits

- Intentional teaching allows children to become aware of rules regarding fire, and how to navigate this safely
- Children can engage as little or as much as they would like whilst realising assessing their own risk level.
- Numeracy skills, language opportunity and fine motor can be incorporated with setting up, lighting and keeping the fire going.
- Children can become involved in filling up the water bottle for example opening opportunities for discussion.
- A relaxed atmosphere promotes ideal setting for storytelling, reading stories, listening skills, concentration skills.
- Children can sit in a variety of social situations, eat snack, communicate, and build bonds.
- Children feel a sense of achievement after practicing lighting a flint – light the fire.
- Staff may take the firepit to other outdoor locations the children are familiar with which re-enforces their sense of self and pride in their community.
- Staff can train others on the use of firepits and fire bowls bringing a sense of confidence to practitioners.