


Department: ECS	RISK ASSESSMENT	Aberdeenshire COUNCIL 
Playground & Field Risk Assessment	Location: Chapel of Garioch School	Date: 17.01.2025
Describe activity: Use of Playground, Outdoor Play Equipment & Field		

Hazard	Person/s Affected	Risk	Risk level before controls are in place (delete as appropriate)			Control Measures	Risk level after controls are in place (delete as appropriate)		
Safeguarding –open site	Pupils Staff Parents	Unknown adults entering playground / field while children are present	LOW	MED	HIGH	<p>Visitor protocol in place. All parents know that they must report to school office should they wish to talk to their child. Parents should not approach any children in playground / field without staff present.</p> <p>Any staff member will approach and question any unknown adult and direct them to office.</p> <p>Supervision is in place within playground / field as much as is practicable during break & lunch.</p> <p>Supervision should remain in place unless there is an emergency. Send pupil in for member of staff if necessary.</p> <p>No personal mobile phones or photographic equipment permitted.</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH
Access paths in and out of	Pupils	We are an open site with 2 paths in and out of the playground/field. Child	LOW	MED	HIGH	As part of transition from Nursery to P1 and class to class, teachers spend time outdoors	LOW	MED	HIGH

<p>playground / field</p> <p>Lack of physical security around areas of playground / field</p>	<p>Staff</p> <p>Parents</p>	<p>could leave site without being seen.</p>				<p>reinforcing in pupils where their outdoor space is and where boundary is.</p> <p>Where required, pupils with additional need will have social story showing boundaries and will repeatedly walk boundaries prior to being allowed to play outdoors. Supervision for pupils deemed a flight risk will be assessed on a case by case basis.</p> <p>Our picnic benches can be used as a safe outdoor space for a pupil who is assessed as being significant flight risk.</p> <p>Supervision is in place within playground/field as much as is practicable during break and lunch.</p> <p>Supervision does not leave playground/field area unless it is an emergency. Send a pupil for member of staff if necessary.</p> <p>School Rules apply to all areas of school including playground and field.</p> <p>Children are regularly reminded of the boundary lines of where they are allowed to play.</p>			
<p>Access to car park / car parking</p>	<p>Pupils</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Parents</p>	<p>Pupils not visible to adults driving whilst:</p> <p>Turning in car parking area during drop off/pick up times</p>	<p>LOW</p>	<p>MED</p>	<p>HIGH</p>	<p>Parents drop off pupils at school starting time, 9am and escort them to the gate safely.</p> <p>School bus safely disembarks children into the school playground.</p>	<p>LOW</p>	<p>MED</p>	<p>HIGH</p>

		<p>Car idling pollution and health risk</p> <p>Access from visitors to school using school car park risk</p>				<p>Pupils are regularly reminded of school boundaries and safe places they are allowed to go which excludes the car park.</p> <p>Parents/Visitors do not use the school car park as a turning area at any time.</p> <p>Parents/Visitors do not have their car idling for prolonged periods, ensuring safety and minimising health impact from smoke pollution</p>			
Conduct	<p>Pupils</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Parents</p>	<p>Exposure to intolerant behaviour</p> <p>Smoking/Vaping</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH	<p>Pupils will adhere to the Right's Respecting Playground Charter.</p> <p>Staff and parents will be respectful, cordial and inclusive.</p> <p>Absolutely no smoking or vaping in or around the school and school grounds including at drop off or pick up times.</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH
<p>Animals in playground / field -</p> <p>Parents/ members of public taking dogs through our site when children are present</p>	<p>Pupils</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Parents</p>	<p>Dogs could get startled and bite or scratch a child/adult.</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH	<p>Dogs should not be taken into the playground/field when children are present. This includes drop off and pick up times.</p> <p>If a parent has walked with a dog to pick up children, they should remain out with our boundary and arrange to collect their child at an agreed point.</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH

Weather	Pupils	Minor Injury	LOW	MED	HIGH	In the event of inclement weather, staff to be vigilant and assess appropriateness of outdoor access/activities.	LOW	MED	HIGH
	Staff	Major Injury							
	Parents	From: Rain / Hail – injury from slips trips and falls, chafing from wet clothes, injury from heavy or large hail				First aid trained member of staff accessible at all times with First Aid kit available in school. Parents encouraged to supply appropriate clothing. Parents encouraged to supply change of clothes. Waterproof clothing available. Deploy staff to support safety - Reduce area of play if necessary. Benefits of play in all-weather reiterated where necessary. In severe inclement weather pupils will remain inside.			
		Sun/Heat – Heatstroke/sunstroke, sunburn, sun damage, dehydration	LOW	MED	HIGH	First aid trained member of staff to be available at all times with First Aid kit available in school. Staff to be vigilant at all times. Regular reminders to parents re applying suncream and providing sun hat. Child may bring own cream. Staff to be mindful of duration of exposure and times of day as per 'sun safe' guidelines. Children and Adults encouraged to drink more water. Outdoor play to be restricted to shorter periods throughout the day where necessary.	LOW	MED	HIGH

		Wind – injury from falling/flying debris, slips, trips and falls, irritation to eyes/ears	LOW	MED	HIGH	Building maintained and risk assessed to ensure good state of repair e.g. no loose tiles, facings. Resources not to be placed on top of sheds etc. Falling trees or other plants risk assessed. Fences etc. checked on an on-going basis. Outdoor play to end and children taken indoors if debris or severity of wind causes risk.	LOW	MED	HIGH
		Frost/Ice/Snow/Cold – Slips trips falls, Chilblains, Ingestion of snow	LOW	MED	HIGH	Staff to be vigilant at all times – mindful of ice/icicles. Gritting and/or snow removal from pathways. Parents encouraged to supply appropriate clothing. Parents encouraged to supply change of clothes. Reduce area of play if necessary. Teachers and PSA have discussion with children about safety in relation to weather conditions. Outdoor play to be restricted to shorter periods throughout the day where necessary. Outdoor play to end should there be too much ice to play safely.	LOW	MED	HIGH
		Electrical Storm	LOW	MED	HIGH	No outdoor play.	LOW	MED	HIGH
Environment	Pupils Staff Parents	Minor Injury Major Injury From:	LOW	MED	HIGH	Staff to undertake site inspection prior to use to check for and remove any hazards. NB this is for cement playground / field area only. Grass area too large for single person to check alone.	LOW	MED	HIGH

		<p>Possible hazards left in playground / field. Could include:</p> <p>Sharps, needles drug paraphernalia</p> <p>Debris, litter, foreign objects</p> <p>Animal Faeces - infections</p>				<p>First aid trained member of staff to be available at all times with First Aid kit available in school. Staff to be vigilant at all times.</p> <p>Children regularly reminded not to touch anything hazardous and report to Staff immediately.</p> <p>Cones are available in the wood shed to put on top of any hazard until removed.</p> <p>Janitor/FES to be called to dispose of items safely, following correct protocols.</p>			
Equipment - Climbing Wall - Gravity bowl - Basket Swing - Monkey Bars - Balance Beam	Pupils Staff	Minor Injury Major Injury From: Unsafe condition and / or use of play equipment & furniture Appropriate play, for age/stage, ability, safety on use of equipment Weather conditions impacting safety of equipment, slips, trips and falls	LOW	MED	HIGH	<p>All play equipment installed by approved contractors and adhered to safety standards required.</p> <p>All play equipment have safe surfaces underneath them to soften any falls.</p> <p>Children are directed to play on the equipment appropriate to their age/stage of development.</p> <p>Children are reminded of school rules with emphasis on rules concerning potentially dangerous play/body interference and obstruction.</p> <p>Children are directed to play on appropriate equipment relevant to the weather conditions, e.g. in wet weather do not use the balance beam, monkey bars or climbing wall.</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH

						<p>Play equipment is given an annual safety inspection by an approved contractor and quarterly inspections by Aberdeenshire Council.</p> <p>All furniture (benches, picnic tables) is kept in good condition. i.e. free from splinters, loose joints, protruding bolts or screws etc. Janitor carries out informal inspections as part of normal duties to look for damage, vandalism, broken glass etc.</p> <p>Playground / field surface maintained in good sound condition to minimise slips and trips.</p>			
Injury from activities in the playground / field	<p>Pupils</p> <p>Staff</p>	<p>Minor Injury</p> <p>Major Injury</p>				<p>Ball games are permitted in designated areas to create a quiet area.</p> <p>Pupils only allowed to play games that are considered within pupils individual capabilities as decided by staff.</p> <p>Games can be stopped at any time by staff if considered unsafe or inappropriate.</p> <p>Discussion regarding safety will take place.</p> <p>Activities to be age appropriate and reflect the mix of ages within the school as well as special needs of pupils.</p> <p>The schools behaviour policy applies on the playground / field.</p>			
Trips, falls & Bumps to the head	<p>Pupils</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Parents</p>	<p>Minor Injury</p> <p>Major Injury</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH	<p>First aid trained member of staff to be accessible at all times with First Aid kit available in school.</p> <p>Children to receive First Aid treatment & Cold Compress as required.</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH

						<p>ALL children to receive a letter, text or phone call from the school office for injuries involving the head & face. Any bumps to heads are recorded in First Aid book and CAIRS.</p> <p>Letters, texts or phone calls are used if pupil has nose bleed or takes their inhaler at school.</p> <p>Minor accidents to be recorded in the First Aid book.</p> <p>Serious accidents e.g. broken bones, stitches to be recorded on CAIRS. Headteacher MUST be informed.</p> <p>Phone calls to parents/carers as required.</p> <p>If in doubt, check injuries with Head Teacher</p> <p>Parents/Carers to inform school of any medical conditions.</p> <p>Parents/Carers to inform school of up-to-date emergency contact details.</p> <p>Injured children are not to be left unsupervised.</p>			
Insect stings and bites	<p>Pupils</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Parents</p>	<p>Minor Injury</p> <p>Major Injury</p> <p>From :</p> <p>Insects may bite or stings children or staff,</p> <p>Pupils may have allergies to eg wasp stings.</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH	<p>First aid trained member of staff to be available at all times with First Aid kit available in school. Staff to be vigilant at all times.</p> <p>Janitor to keep bins as clean as possible and empty regularly to avoid possible source of attraction for wasps.</p> <p>All staff are familiar with pupils who have allergies to stings and know protocols to follow.</p> <p>Normal First Aid policy followed for pupils without allergies.</p>	LOW	MED	HIGH