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|---|---|--|----------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|--|
|  | Durlston Court Forest School Risk Assessment | | | Title | | Risk Assessment | |
| | | | | Reference | | | |
| | Activity: Rope Use | | Status | | DRAFT/ACTIVE | | |
| | | | Revision | 0 | Date | February 22 | |
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| GENERIC HAZARDS | | | PEOPLE | RATING (RISK = L X S) | | | RISK CONTROL | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|-------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| A Stairs | B Stair gate | C Doors | 1 Employees | SEVERITY (S) | 3. HIGH Major Injury/Fatality | 3 | 6 | 9 | HIGH DO NOT PROCEED, Further controls required |
| D Windows | E Flooring | F Shelves | | | | 2 Children | 2. MEDIUM Notifiable Injury | 2 | |
| G Small movable objects | H Knives | I Cooker | 3 Visitors | | 1. LOW Minor Injury | | | 1 | 2 |
| J Water | K Food | L Chemicals/Harmful substances | | 4 Public | | LIKELIHOOD (L) | | | |
| M Fire | N Electric sockets | O Lifting/stooping / twisting trunk | | | 1 LOW | 2 MED' | 3 HIGH | | |
| P Cars | Q Visitors | R Strangers | | | | | | | |
| S Estranged parent | T Climbing | U Child exiting the building unsupervised | | | | | | | |
| V Radiators | W Animals | X Chicken pen | | | | | | | |
| Y Tool | Z Plants | A1 Rubbish | | | | | | | |
| B1 Lost Child | C1 Uneven pathways and protruding roots | D1 Branches at eye level | | | | | | | |
| E1 Falling deadwood | F1 Wasps & Bees | G1 Extreme weather conditions | | | | | | | |
| H1 Extreme hot weather | I1 Extreme high wind | J1 Claustrophobia/Fear of the dark | | | | | | | |
| K1 Falling objects | L1 Ropes | | | | | | | | |

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Benefits of the activity: | The very widespread popularity of rope play among children suggests that it fulfils an important need. Rope play is often part of vigorous physical play and elaborate imaginative scenarios, thus it should not be discouraged. Even after control measures, there will be a medium risk of injury, but the hazard level can be reduced through effective management. |
| Is the risk acceptable? | Yes – so long as management methods are in place. |

| ACTIVITY | HAZARD | RISK | PEOPLE AFFECTED | UNCONTROLLED RISK RATING | | | CONTROL MEASURES | RESIDUAL RISK RATING | | |
|--|------------|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---|---|--|----------------------|---|---|
| | | | | L | S | R | | L | S | R |
| Falling off a rope bridge or sliding down a rope | L1 - Ropes | Friction burns and welts | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | Discuss with children the possibility of injury and discuss what rules there should be. Rule of "stop at once" if anybody calls out that they are getting hurt or scared. Rule that you can't wobble the rope when someone else is trying to cross. Rope bridge is no more than a meter from the ground and is vertical so sliding along the rope is minimised. | 2 | 1 | 2 |



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|---|------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Rope caught around a child's neck | L1 - Ropes | Choking/throttling | 2 | 2 | 3 | 6 | <p>Discuss with children the possibility of injury and discuss what rules there should be.</p> <p>Rule of "stop at once" if anybody calls out that they are getting hurt or scared.</p> <p>If there is free play with ropes, this is only done so under strict supervision.</p> <p>Checks knots being used are not slip knots or ones that can tighten</p> <p>Do not allow ropes to be tied around necks or to be tied in a loop around the chest</p> | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Whipped in the face by a rope | L1 - Ropes | Face and eye injuries | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | <p>Discuss with children the possibility of injury and discuss what rules there should be.</p> <p>Rule of "stop at once" if anybody calls out that they are getting hurt or scared.</p> | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Falling from the rope bridge | L1 - Ropes | Fall injuries e.g. head and bones | 2 | 3 | 2 | 6 | <p>Discuss with children the possibility of injury and discuss what rules there should be.</p> <p>Rule of "stop at once" if anybody calls out that they are getting hurt or scared.</p> <p>Rope bridge foot rope no more than 1 meter from the ground..</p> <p>Children who are less confident or able on the rope bridge are supported physically and/or emotionally by an adult.</p> | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Tying up another person or themselves or wobbling the rope bridge or swing. | L1 - Ropes | Emotional distress | 2 | 3 | 2 | 6 | <p>Discuss with children the possibility of injury and discuss what rules there should be.</p> <p>Rule of "stop at once" if anybody calls out that they are getting hurt or scared.</p> <p>If there is free play with ropes, this is only done so under strict supervision. The ropes must not be wrapped or tied around another person or themselves.</p> | 1 | 2 | 2 |