

ST. DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR:	EARLY YEARS PLAY	
Establishment: St. Dominic's Catholic Primary School	Assessment by: EYFS Leader and Team	Date: September 2019
1st Review Date Due : September 2020	Manager Approval: Head Teacher	Date: September 2019

Hazard / Risk	Who is at Risk?	How can the hazards cause harm?	Normal Control Measures	Are Normal Control Measures Y/N/NA	
				In Place	Adequate
Internal play equipment <i>Slips, trips, injury</i>	Staff/ children/ visitors	Water from the sinks can splash into other areas. Otherwise all other areas free from water and other obstructions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All equipment purchased/loaned to be checked to ensure they are safe for the ages and stages of children attending activity Layout of equipment to allow adult and children to move freely between activities All equipment checked regularly for cleanliness, state of repair etc All glues, paints etc are non-toxic Supervision is constant during physical play Children taught how to use play equipment correctly. 	Y	
Outdoor play Play equipment <i>Slips, trips, falls, minor injury</i> Sandpits <i>Sand in eyes/face etc. Slips/trips. Contamination of sand</i>	Children/ visitors	Reports to Premises Manager regularly for any repairs/damage. Head and Premises manager do a termly risk Assessment for the whole site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular checks for defects and reporting of these in place. Repairs undertaken where necessary. Sandpit checked for unsafe items before play and covered after use Clean sand regularly (incl area around sandpit) Appropriate sand is being used Activities supervised at all times 	Y	

<p>Falls from climbing apparatus / major injury</p>		<p>All apparatus checked and signed off by installers.</p> <p>Apparatus monitored when wet and children supervised to use to minimise risks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrict and control numbers on apparatus at one time (specify the maximum number of children) • Ensure that the equipment is appropriate for the age of the pupils using it. (For some equipment it may be necessary to identify an age or height restriction) • Supervision of use required at all times • Apparatus not to be used when wet and slippery • Clear rules about appropriate behaviour (for example not to hang upside down from monkey bars) • Children to wear appropriate footwear • Ensure that impact absorbing surfaces are present where there is a significant risk of a fall (<i>not required for climbing equipment below 60cm</i>) 	Y	
<p>Bullying / stress, physical injury HGfL: Healthy & Well Being: Anti-bullying</p>	children	<p>School anti-bullying policy in place. Parent discussions to solve any distress. PSHE and collective worship focuses on being kind to each other.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An anti-bullying policy should be in place • Adult supervisors should be familiar with the policy • Training for supervisors in identification and prevention of bullying 	Y	
<p>Fighting/ Rough games / injury</p>	children	<p>Appropriate supervision outside with adequate ratios.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisors aware of rules on appropriate behaviour • Supervisors trained in how to deal with this type of situation • Prohibit inappropriate games 	Y	
<p>Security/ Children absconding/ leaving grounds unobserved <i>Unsupervised contact with adults /abduction, assault, child protection issues</i></p>	children	<p>Gates secure and monitored daily by the adults outside.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures in place for the arrival and departure of children (including when children leave early) • Maintained, unbreached fencing (no holes or gaps) • Points of access onto the site minimised with clearly signed routes to the Reception • If possible, provide alternative routes for visitors which will bypass playing areas. • Gates closed / secured during outside activities • Avoid children playing in areas out of sight of adults • Areas identified as higher risk made "out of bounds" (Identify on a plan) 	Y	

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision levels appropriate for the layout of the site and the play areas, especially in the vicinity of gates and where there are public footpaths through the grounds. (Identify on a plan) Identify any blind spots due to walls, trees, bushes, play equipment, etc. and eliminate/reduce problem by cutting back/down hedging etc 	Y	
Hard surfaces / steps and steep slopes /slips trips and falls	Children/ staff	Play areas are AstroTurf in Reception and in Nursery under all apparatuses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the play areas are even and well maintained. Any areas which become unsuitable will need to be coned off and placed out of bounds until repairs can be undertaken. Area periodically checked for missing drain covers, uneven surfaces, etc. Games not to be played on steps Ensure these areas are gritted in the winter when there is ice and snow 	Y	
Inadequate response to accidents/ more serious injury	Children/ staff	First aiders trained and Nursery staff trained in paediatric first aid.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate numbers of supervision to account for emergency situations First aid kits located close by playing areas Trained first aiders present on the site and available at all times Supervisors who do not have first aid training are aware of the action they should take in the event of an injury and what not to do 	Y	
Weather	Children/ staff	Parents are aware of "out in all weather" policy and provide appropriate clothing daily.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable outdoor clothing (sunhats/wet weather wear) to be worn Sunscreen to be applied by parents where applicable 	Y	
Food and Drink	children	Food and drinks are handled by catering staff trained separately by provider.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff trained to appropriate levels in food hygiene All food and drink are stored appropriately Adults do not carry hot drinks through play area(s) 	Y	

RESIDUAL RISK RATING	ACTION REQUIRED
VERY HIGH (VH) Strong likelihood of fatality / serious injury occurring	The activity must not take place at all. You must identify further controls to reduce the risk rating.
HIGH (H) Possibility of fatality/serious injury occurring	You must identify further controls to reduce the risk rating. Seek further advice, e.g. from your H&S Team
MEDIUM (M) Possibility of significant injury or over 3 day absence occurring	If it is not possible to lower risk further, you will need to consider the risk against the benefit. Monitor risk assessments at this rating more regularly and closely.
LOW (L) Possibility of minor injury only	No further action required.