



Early Years Foundation Stage Risk Assessment Policy

Document control	
Date Approved	November 2023
Date for Review	November 2024
Authorised By	LAB
Published Location	School Website
Document Owner	Principal
Version Control	2

1. RATIONALE:

To facilitate, support and encourage children to take a risk, embrace new experiences and learn by trial and error.

2. PURPOSE

- All children to receive provision that stimulates and challenges their learning.
- All children to become independent learners - applying the skills they learn in their own play.
- All children should be able to take risks in their learning because the environment is created to allow this whilst being mindful of safety at all times.

3. GUIDELINES

- EYFS staff will carry out risk assessments for any outings – these are considered and authorised by Senior Leaders.
- EYFS staff will check identified written risks on a daily basis – if risks are identified then they are recorded in the risk assessment book and reported to the facilities manager as soon as possible. All staff are responsible for identifying risk and making the environment as safe as soon as possible.
- EYFS staff will manage risks on a daily basis and use their professional judgements and the advice of senior staff to ensure that any additional hazards that are identified are addressed immediately with the safety of the pupils' paramount at all times.
- Fixed structures inside and out are assessed by the school Health and safety designated officer.

4. GENERAL RISK ANALYSIS

- Keep unused electrical sockets secure with safety covers.
- Keep floor clutter to specified learning environments.
- Check play equipment daily.
- Discuss the dangers of trapping fingers in doors.
- Supervise children at all times with appropriate ratios of adults-pupils. Reception 1:30 (CT) and Nursery 1:13 (CT, NNEB and TA)

- Make sure exits/entrances are supervised during accessible times and at all other times ensure that they are locked.
- Discuss the need for staff to know where children are – e.g.: Going to the toilet in case of fire drills etc

5. INDOOR ENVIRONMENT CHECKLIST

Is the classroom environment safe and secure?	Yes
Is the learning environment an emotionally safe place to be?	Yes
Does the learning environment enable all children to develop as independent learners?	Yes
Are appropriate learning opportunities maximised by using space and time creatively?	Yes – reviewed regularly especially if an area isn't being accessed
Is the indoor environment accessible to all children?	Yes
Is the learning environment too hot, too cold, too stuffy or too dark?	All acceptable – need to monitor the free flow door in winter months
Do children have access to water to drink?	Yes – all day Children also have milk
Do children have access to healthy snacks?	Yes – daily 1 per pupil but if any left in the afternoon then it can be accessed
Is there adequate space for children to learn and play?	Yes

6. OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT CHECKLIST

Are there a range of activities for each of the 7 areas of learning?	Yes – often modelled then enhanced within the provision
Is the outdoor environment safe and secure?	Yes – members of staff should be in key places to ensure that this happens
Is the learning environment an emotionally safe place to be?	Yes
Is the outdoor environment accessed in all weathers?	Yes – may limit the time if the weather is extremely cold (Nursery – slippery floor around N classroom so often use the alternative walkway) Sun cream and sunhats in hot/sunny weather – information shared with parents/carers
Are appropriate learning opportunities maximised by using space and time creatively?	Yes
Can the children use the outdoor environment for all aspects of their learning?	Yes
Is the outdoor environment accessible to the children?	Yes
Is the outdoor environment always supervised?	Yes free flow / outdoor provision– 1 member inside/ 1 member outside
Do children have access to healthy snacks and water?	Yes – they can still access this independently (weather dependent)
Is there adequate space for children to learn and play?	Yes
Are there a range of activities for each of the 7 areas of learning?	Yes

7. POINTS TO CONSIDER

Visibility – how much of the outdoor environment can be seen?	Adults to be stationed to enable full visibility of EYFS outside area. Ratio of adults to be adapted depending on where children are working.
Are there any blind spots?	In one Nursery class, an internal wall blocks the exit door and toilets. Staff need to be vigilant that no child is left there on their own.
How do children access the outdoors?	Through classroom doors in the Nursery/Reception classrooms.
How are the access points made secure?	<p>The main gate is locked at 8.30am. Doors to Nursery and Reception are locked at 8.30am and opened for parents to collect children at 3.00pm- internal gates are closed/ latched at 8.30am. and opened for parents to collect children - internal gates are closed/latched at 8.30am.</p> <p>When Nursery welcome and says goodbye to parents and carers, they lock/ unlock the Nursery gate and supervise this access until all the parents have left and the gate is locked.</p> <p>If EYFS are outside then staff must be vigilant that the inner gate is closed and locked</p>
Are the access points used by staff, children , parents/visitors to access other areas of the site?	No
Which equipment will always require adult supervision?	All outdoors have adult supervision to ensure safety at all times and that pupils are learning through extended play
Which resources require regular safety checks?	All items are checked daily but specific areas are monitored more closely as stated in the risk assessment
Are there any children who will need particular support and supervision outdoors?	Reviewed daily and discussed when necessary

<p>How many children have access to the outdoor environment at any one time?</p>	<p>Free flow/ adult to child ratio followed. Teacher judgement used daily if specific areas are being used more than others R 1:15 inside/outside N 1:13 (with CT, NNEB and TA present)</p>
<p>How will weather conditions affect surfaces, equipment, activities and access?</p>	<p>Fixed equipment needs maintaining – weatherproofing – caretaker clears potential hazards including litter.</p>

	<p>ICE/FLOODS –daily assessment needed in am to arrange access and dismissal procedures so all are safe. Consider if the wooden equipment is safe to use in case of wet weather – possible slippery surfaces and if the temperature of the slide is safe to use on bare skin during hot weather.</p>
<p>Are adults working with EYFS children aware of designated Paediatric first aiders?</p>	<p>Yes, there are 1 Paediatric first aider in EYFS that are in school daily 1: N</p>
<p>Is the environment close to public access points or public footpaths?</p>	<p>No – However, staff carpark is next to fence– good practice and safety modelled at all times and directed away from the fence should they be inquisitive</p>

8. OUTDOOR AREA RISK ASSESSMENT

<p>Who could be harmed?</p>	<p>Children</p>
------------------------------------	-----------------

<p>Existing Controls?</p>	<p>Daily staff talks before they are allowed to use it.</p> <p>Continuous warnings if safety precautions are not maintained.</p> <p>New staff are inducted and supervised.</p> <p>Outdoor equipment is checked daily to ensure everything is in safe working order</p> <p>Staff made aware of any possible hazards</p> <p>Gates/locking system in place to safeguard all pupils</p> <p>Stair gates in appropriate places for the safety of pupils and staff</p>
<p>How serious is the risk of injury?</p>	<p>M – some areas carry more risk than others as stated in the risk assessment</p>

<p>What further action is needed to control the risk?</p>	<p>Continuous vigilance by all EYFS staff</p>
<p>Who will be responsible for what action and when/how often will it be taken?</p>	<p>All staff - ongoing</p>

This policy to be read with the suite of Early Years Risk Assessments

In summary, this is what ATAM Academy will do to manage risk ...

- All staff will be involved in assessing risk daily – THE SAFETY AND WELFARE OF ALL CHILDREN IS PARAMOUNT!
- Risk assessments will be reviewed regularly.
- If staff see a hazard they will either remove it or make the area safe.
- All staff will model how to use resources/equipment effectively.
- All staff will support and model how to move around the setting safely.

8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Early Years Lead will monitor that all staff in the Early Years follow the policy consistently.

The Early Years Lead will monitor the effectiveness of the policy and review it annually.