

### Risk Benefit Assessment for Sycamore Adventure

<b>Benefit of Adventure Play for Children &amp; Young People:</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fun</li> <li>2. Self Directed Play, opportunity to follow own interests and develop in an exciting and stimulating environment</li> <li>3. Physical activity</li> <li>4. Communication skills, negotiation skills and teamwork.</li> <li>5. Children learn to assess risks independently.</li> <li>6. For many children the adventure playground will be a new, exciting and rewarding experience.</li> <li>7. The adventure playground and the play staff team will aim to offer children a full play menu enabling children to encounter the 16 specific play types, (e.g. deep play, locomotive play, rough and tumble).</li> <li>8. Landscape and play menu is inclusive ensuring that all are able participate and to make a positive contribution.</li> <li>9. Stress release for children and young people.</li> <li>10. Encourage social opportunities for children and young people.</li> <li>11. The play team will encourage children to encounter new adventurous experiences and learn new skills.</li> <li>12. Play impacts on all areas of childhood development.</li> </ol>

<b>Steps</b>	<b>Hazard / Risk</b>	<b>Risk Rating (Likelihood x Severity)</b>	<b>Action to Control Risk</b>	<b>Revised Risk Rating</b>	<b>Responsible person</b>
Ensure that the external play space is safe for children to access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippery surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Sharp objects on the floor</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment</li> <li>• Equipment unsuitable for specific children / specific age</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centre staff ensures that the play area is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Daily litter picks and equipment safety checks to be conducted on entire site to ensure it is safe for use.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week.</li> <li>• Centre staff to discuss use of play equipment safety with children, young</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Greencare Annual inspection

	ranges.		<p>people, parents, carers or those who have booked the centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly external safety check conducted by Greencare (Council's Green space and play area maintenance teams).</li> <li>• Annual external playground inspection conducted (ROSPA).</li> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use.</li> </ul>		
Ensure that the fencing and gates on site are safe for use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unsafe gates or fences that endanger users.</li> <li>• Gates left open enabling children to escape</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed maintenance checks to be held once per week.</li> <li>• Gates to be included on daily safety check prior to bookings and locked / unlocked as appropriate.</li> <li>• Monthly external safety check conducted by Greencare (Council's Green space and play area maintenance teams).</li> <li>• Annual external playground inspection conducted).</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Greencare Annual inspection
Ensure internal play space is clear of any hazards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippery surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Dirty surfaces creating chance of cross contamination or infection.</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment</li> <li>• Electric shocks</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the building is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Cleaner present three times per week.</li> <li>• Daily cleaning and safety checks to be conducted on building to ensure it is safe for use.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week.</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Cleaner

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAT testing to take place annually.</li> <li>• Loose parts and toys checked for safety.</li> <li>• Scheduled cleaning of equipment conducted.</li> </ul>		
Ensure that the sensory room is safe & clean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faulty equipment causing possible shock / danger to children and young people.</li> <li>• Disease / infection caused due to dirty equipment being used.</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensory room to be checked and cleaned after every session.</li> <li>• Daily cleaning and safety checks to be conducted in sensory room to ensure it is safe for use.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week.</li> <li>• Cleaner present three times per week.</li> <li>• PAT testing completed annually.</li> <li>• Scheduled deep cleaning of equipment conducted.</li> </ul>	Low	ROMPA & Play Worker Cleaner
Ensure the centre is clean and as such appropriate for use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disease / infection caused due to dirty equipment being used.</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaner present three times per week.</li> <li>• Play workers clean after every session.</li> <li>• Morning safety checks include general cleanliness and ensuring the centre is stocked for use as appropriate.</li> <li>• Monthly cleaning schedule adhered to.</li> </ul>	Low	Cleaner & Play worker
Ensure that the local Fox is not causing risks to children.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faeces causing risk of illness / slip hazards</li> <li>• Attack to children.</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The foxes are generally nocturnal and usually only emerge when children are not using the adventure playground.</li> </ul>	Low	Play worker

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foxes avoid contact with humans therefore they will not be prone to approaching site users, especially noisy children having lots of fun!</li> <li>• The foxes den is on not on site.</li> <li>• Staff ensure all potential food sources for the foxes are minimised through good hygiene practices.</li> <li>• Daily grounds checks conducted to reduce faeces on site.</li> </ul>		
Ensure that all equipment and resources within the centre and grounds are safe for use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faulty equipment causing injury / shocks.</li> <li>• Equipment failure results in lack of participation for children who are reliant on its use (e.g. hoist).</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual PAT Testing.</li> <li>• Annual / 6 monthly servicing of equipment as specified.</li> <li>• Daily safety checks conducted.</li> <li>• Monthly external safety check conducted by Greencare (Council's Green space and play area maintenance teams).</li> <li>• Annual external playground inspection conducted).</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Greencare Annual Inspectors
<p>Following play structures are safe for use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slide</li> <li>• Water Fountain</li> <li>• Water Channel</li> <li>• Tower &amp; Slide</li> <li>• Boat</li> <li>• Hammocks</li> <li>• Swings (Double &amp; Cantilever)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faulty structures causing risk of injury to users</li> <li>• Equipment inappropriate for specific age groups</li> <li>• Risk of strangulation</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily safety checks conducted.</li> <li>• Detailed weekly safety checks completed</li> <li>• Monthly external safety check conducted by Greencare (Council's Green space and play area maintenance teams).</li> <li>• Annual external playground inspection conducted).</li> <li>• Supervision of play space provided at all times it is in use.</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music Play</li> <li>• Tree House</li> <li>• Trim Trail</li> <li>• Climbing frame</li> <li>• Tripod structure &amp; Bridge</li> <li>• Abandoned vehicles</li> <li>• Cave</li> <li>• Hobbit house</li> <li>• Trampoline</li> <li>• Round about</li> <li>• Mound</li> <li>• Trim Trail</li> <li>• Fixtures and fittings (EG bins and benches)</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fence prohibits unsupervised use.</li> <li>• All equipment has been selected to offer a variety of play opportunities for children and young people of varied age. Under 8 year olds must come accompanied enabling their guardians to support access to equipment.</li> <li>• Area's where risks are present are pointed out to adults so that sufficient supervision can be provided.</li> <li>• Observation points provided by large equipment items for continued supervision.</li> <li>• Accident records reviewed to see if accidents are reoccurring in specific areas, informing repairs, modifications / ultimately removal of equipment.</li> <li>• All items which have a strangulation risk (EG beaters for music play chimes) have been adapted to remove the risk.</li> </ul>		
<p>Children engage in free play throughout the centre and grounds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tripping, Falling &amp; bumping resulting in Injuries</li> <li>• Heat / exhaustion</li> <li>• Child injures themselves without staff being aware</li> <li>• Allegations being made</li> </ul>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate supervision in place. Two staff indoors and two staff outdoors whenever both play environments are in use.</li> <li>• Full centre policies and procedures followed by entire staff team</li> <li>• Staff have Walkie talkies to communicate from a distance</li> <li>• Playwork qualified staff present at</li> </ul>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Playworkers, children, parents, staff accompanying children through bookings.</p>

			<p>every session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff meetings held to discuss sessions prior to commencing</li> <li>• First Aid kit and first aiders present at every session / booking</li> <li>• First Aid kits checked and re-stocked each month.</li> <li>• Staff look out for signs of child tiring and suggest breaks.</li> <li>• Water &amp; shelter provided.</li> <li>• Accident reports completed after each incident / accident</li> <li>• Parents made aware of adventure playground and playwork principles</li> <li>• Generic introduction to the centre to be held with new referrals and associated risks pointed out</li> <li>• Regular reflection sessions held with staff to mitigate against any associated risks.</li> <li>• Public Liability Insurance in place.</li> <li>• All activities run on site have full risk benefit assessments in place.</li> <li>• Site Risk assessment and activity risk assessments to be adhered to at all times.</li> </ul>		
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Individual Equipment checks	Hazard / Risk	Risk Rating (Likely hood x Severity)	Action to Control Risk	Revised Risk Rating	Responsible person
<p>Tree Houses / Structures / hobbit house &amp; walkways, 2 x slides; tower linked to terrace / 3 linked tree houses / tripod structure with linking bridge and scramble net, hobbit house, trim trial, climbing frame.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippy surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Unstable structures</li> <li>• Wood rotting bellow surface.</li> <li>• Sharp objects on the floor / ceiling (EG screws)</li> <li>• Falling from height</li> <li>• Bumping heads on upper beams</li> <li>• Splinters</li> <li>• Equipment unsuitable for specific children / specific age ranges.</li> <li>• Tree houses providing a blind spot for incidents.</li> <li>• Doors causing finger traps</li> <li>• Loose equipment</li> </ul>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centre staff ensures that the tree house / structures are free of trip hazards and have been checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Any damages repaired immediately.</li> <li>• Pole checks conducted monthly.</li> <li>• Centre staff to discuss use of play equipment with children, young people, parents, carers or those who have booked the centre – areas of risk to be pointed out.</li> <li>• All self build is completed by trained staff and follows the Health and Safety in Play Provision Blue Book. Galvanised wood used / sanded to avoid splinters.</li> <li>• Equipment has been risk assessed and approved by ROSPA.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The structures are part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits</li> </ul>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians</p>

			<p>present at all play sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slide checked for stability / damage weekly.</li> <li>• Scramble net &amp; wire on bridge checked daily to ensure it is tight / free from holes / suitable for use.</li> <li>• Regular checks conducted to ensure blind spots are searched for accidents / injury / incidents.</li> <li>• Hobbit house doors can provide a finger trap. These have the option to be bolted back where younger children are present.</li> <li>• Slides checked to ensure stable, no excessive movement, no sharp metal sticking out.</li> </ul>		
Fencing and gates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unsafe gates or fences that endanger users.</li> <li>• Gates left open enabling children to escape</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed maintenance checks to be held once per week.</li> <li>• Gates to be included on daily safety check prior to bookings and locked / unlocked as appropriate.</li> <li>• Monthly external safety check conducted by Greencare (Council's Green space and play area maintenance teams).</li> <li>• Annual external playground inspection conducted).</li> <li>• Gates kept locked at all times to avoid children absconding.</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians
Caves and rocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippery surface enabling child to</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boulders are concreted in to avoid movement.</li> <li>• Reinforced steel used for caves.</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Teacher Greencare



	<p>fall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loose boulders</li> <li>• Injury from falls</li> <li>• Excessive load causing collapse of cave</li> </ul>		<p>Checked regularly. Excessive congregation above discouraged by staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the caves and boulders and surrounding area is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The cave and boulders is part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Equipment designed for supervised use. Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits present at all play sessions.</li> </ul>		<p>Annual Inspectors Guardians</p>
Trampoline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippy surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment</li> <li>• Injury from falls</li> <li>• Excessive load</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the trampoline and surrounding area is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The trampoline is part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Equipment designed for unsupervised use in parks. Extremely robust piece of equipment. Supervised during play</li> </ul>	Low	<p>Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians</p>

			<p>sessions to ensure safety of children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits present at all play sessions.</li> </ul>		
Dragon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippery surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment</li> <li>• Injury from falls (climbing on table).</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the dragon and surrounding area is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The dragon is part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits present at all play sessions.</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians
Music Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unsafe equipment falling on children</li> <li>• Strangulation from chains attached to beaters</li> </ul>	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The chimes are part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits present at all play sessions.</li> <li>• The original chains have been replaced with much shorter chains which could not fit around a child's neck removing risk of strangulation.</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians

Camp fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burns</li> <li>• Fire spreading</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire lighting equipment locked away unless in use.</li> <li>• Forest school approved staff only to run fire sessions.</li> <li>• Fire fighting equipment present during all fires.</li> <li>• Safety zone created, children informed of camp fire rules.</li> <li>• Individual activity risk assessment followed during fires on site.</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker
Swings (double / cantilever)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippery surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment</li> <li>• Injury from falls off swings</li> <li>• Excessive load</li> <li>• Risk of injury from swing hitting passer bys.</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the swings and surrounding areas are free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Centre staff to discuss use of play equipment with children, young people, parents, carers or those who have booked the centre – areas of risk to be pointed out.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The swing is part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Equipment designed for unsupervised use in parks. Extremely robust equipment. Supervised during play sessions to ensure safety of children. Maximum of four children to use at any one time (cantilever) or one child</li> </ul>	Low	Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians

			<p>per time (on generic swings).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excessive pushing will be discouraged.</li> <li>• Safety chains checked regularly.</li> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits present at all play sessions.</li> </ul>		
Hammocks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippy surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment</li> <li>• Injury from falls</li> <li>• Excessive load</li> <li>• Risk of injury from swing hitting passer bys.</li> <li>• Excessive wear on parts.</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the Hammocks and surrounding area is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Centre staff to discuss use of play equipment with children, young people, parents, carers or those who have booked the centre – areas of risk to be pointed out.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The Hammocks are part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Supervised during play sessions to ensure safety of children. Maximum of two children to use hammocks at any one time.</li> <li>• Excessive pushing of hammocks will be discouraged.</li> <li>• All fixtures and fittings checked weekly.</li> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play</li> </ul>	Low	<p>Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians</p>

			<p>space is in use. First aid staff and kits present at all play sessions.</p>		
<p>Boat, jeeps, motorbikes and Sandpit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippery surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment – finger traps in vehicles</li> <li>• Injury from falls off boats / jeeps roof</li> <li>• Excessive load</li> <li>• Bikes toppling onto children.</li> <li>• Boat providing a blind spot for incidents.</li> <li>• Sand – dirty / in eyes</li> <li>• Sharp items in sand.</li> <li>• Fire</li> </ul>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the vehicles and surrounding area is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Sand pit raked each morning to ensure no sharp items are in the sand.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The vehicles are part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Centre staff to discuss use of play equipment with children, young people, parents, carers or those who have booked the centre – areas of risk to be pointed out.</li> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits present at all play sessions.</li> <li>• Children discouraged from climbing on the roof of the boat / vehicles. Rubber top provided on wooden beams to avoid head injury from falls. Rubber matting surrounding vehicles in case of fall from height.</li> <li>• Regular checks conducted to ensure blind spots are searched for accidents</li> </ul>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians</p>

			<p>/ injury / incidents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All vehicles concreted in, drained of liquids and dangerous finger traps removed (welded doors, suspension, turning parts),</li> <li>• Flammable liquids removed from vehicles, regular checks made by staff in case people are smoking in the vehicles.</li> </ul>		
Water Fountain and Water Channel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippy surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment</li> <li>• Injury from slips</li> <li>• Finger traps</li> <li>• Dirty water – health risks.</li> <li>• Hypothermia</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the water channel and water fountain and surrounding area is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The water features are part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Centre staff to discuss use of play equipment with children, young people, parents, carers or those who have booked the centre – areas of risk to be pointed out. Getting wet discouraged in very cold weather. Children informed that water fountain water is not appropriate to drink.</li> <li>• Water pump is from the mains so clean water. Water fountain is recycled but with top up tap attached.</li> </ul>	Low	<p>Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians</p>

			<p>Water is replaced weakly or after “accidents”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits present at all play sessions.</li> </ul>		
Round about	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trip hazards / slippery surface enabling child to fall.</li> <li>• Unsafe equipment</li> <li>• Finger traps</li> <li>• Excessive load</li> <li>• Children falling from the seat during use and causing injury</li> <li>• Risk of injury from roundabout hitting passer bys.</li> </ul>	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will ensure that the roundabout and surrounding area is free of trip hazards and has been ground checked prior to all sessions commencing.</li> <li>• Centre staff to discuss use of play equipment with children, young people, parents, carers or those who have booked the centre – areas of risk to be pointed out.</li> <li>• Detailed equipment safety check conducted once per week. Weekly detailed checks held. Monthly Greencare visits and annual external visit from ROSPA. The roundabout is part of the inspected equipment.</li> <li>• Equipment designed for unsupervised use in parks. Extremely robust piece of equipment. Supervised during play sessions to ensure safety of children. Where excessive loads are present, it is impossible to turn the roundabout at speed.</li> <li>• Standing up during use of the roundabout will be discouraged.</li> <li>• Staff supervision whenever play space is in use. First aid staff and kits</li> </ul>	Low	<p>Play Worker Teacher Greencare Annual Inspectors Guardians</p>

			present at all play sessions.		
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