 **H**appiness **– A**chievement – **N**urture **– K**indness

**Benefit Risk Assessment**

**Kinellar Nursery**

At Kinellar Nursery it is important that we have robust measures in place to identify any risks in our environment and implement the procedures needed to minimise these risks.

The purpose of Benefit Risk Assessments are to:

* Identify the likely hazards to be encountered
* Identify hazards you may create as a result of actions you intend to take
* Identify those who are at risk
* Identify how risks can be minimised and managed at an acceptable level by implementing suitable control measures
* Establish appropriate supervision ratios

At Kinellar Nursery we provide free flow play from indoors and outdoors. We have various benefit risk assessments for our outdoor area and ensure these are robust to support children to enjoy potentially hazardous activities such as our fire pit or woodwork (using real tools.) Where a ‘one off’ or unique activity is being undertaken a risk assessment, specific to this activity must be undertaken and recorded. (See Appendix 2 & 4)

The children are involved in risk assessing the garden before we go outside on a daily basis. They take it in turns to be the ‘Safety Officer’ and go outside in high viz with a staff member, clipboard and pen looking for any hazards and check if the gate is locked. This allows the children to take ownership and learn about risk assessing and keeping themselves and others safe.

To make community links we like to take the children out with the Nursery when we can e.g. to the local woods, on community walks, to the park, Fechnie Brae care home, shop etc. Staff who are going on an outing with the children ensure the appropriate risk management is in place according to the environment and location e.g. if children need to cross the road etc.

We have our Benefit Risk Assessment Folder where we keep all our risk assessments. Staff read and sign these annually or more often if they need to use a particular risk assessment. These are also monitored, reviewed and updated throughout the year if necessary or in line with updated guidance.

**Benefit Risk Assessment Procedures:**

* Any furniture or resources that are damaged are removed for repair or disposal.
* A cleaning record of resources is maintained and every resource is cleaned before it is stored away.
* Register is taken at the beginning of each session and staff are required to sign the children in and out of Nursery.

 **H**appiness **– A**chievement – **N**urture **– K**indness

**Health and Social Care Standards**

*1.25 I can choose to have an active life and participate in a range of recreational, social, creative, physical and learning activities every day both indoors and outdoors.*

*2.24 I make informed choices and decisions about the risks I take in my daily life and am encouraged to take positive risks which enhance the quality of my life.*

*3.25 I am helped to feel safe and secure in my local community.*

*5.17 My environment is secure and safe*

**The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) – (1989):**

Article 3: (Best interests of the child): The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children.

Training on Benefit Risk Assessment can be found on Aldo.

[**https://aldo.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/**](https://aldo.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/)

Appendix 1 - Health and Safety Executive ,2014, “Risk assessment. A brief guide to controlling risks in the workplace. (leaflet INDG163 (rev4))”

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg163.pdf>

Appendix 2 - Care Inspectorate, 2016, “My World Outdoors” page 18

<https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/3091/My_world_outdoors_-_early_years_good_practice_2016.pdf>

Appendix 3 - Health and Safety Executive, 2012(19), “Children’s Play and Leisure – Promoting a Balanced Approach."

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/entertainment/childrens-play-july-2012.pdf>

Appendix 4 - Aberdeenshire Council, "Aberdeenshire Council Risk Assessment Guidance", 2010

<http://arcadialite.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/risk-assessment-guidance/>

Appendix 5 - Aberdeenshire Council,

<https://evolve.edufocus.co.uk/evco10/evchome_public.asp?domain=aberdeenshirecouncil-excursions.org.uk>  – EVOLVE risk assessment log in

Appendix 6 - Play Safety Forum, 2012, (second edition),” Managing Risk in Play Provision: Implementation guide”

<http://www.playscotland.org/wp-content/uploads/Managing-Risk-in-Play-Provision-implementation-guide-2nd-edition-2.pdf>

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**Policy Author – Nikki Nicol**