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# Quinns Rocks Primary School Community Garden Risk Assessment

(For detailed descriptions of likelihood and consequence levels, see the end of this document)

| IDENTIFIED RISK | CONSEQUENCES | LIKELI-HOOD | OVERALL RISK LEVEL | MITIGATION/CONTROL MEASURES |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sharp cutting equipment:eg. Saws, shovels, power tools, secateurs, hedge trimmers. | Major: Cuts, deep wounds, broken bones | Possible | High | * Safety check activity incorporated into sign on sheet. * First Aid kit available at site * Under 18s not to use power cutting tools * Members using power tools MUST wear enclosed shoes, long sleeved shirt, long trousers and eye protection. * Safety goggles provided in shed. * Annual maintenance schedule for power tools to ensure they are in good working order. |
| Pointed gardening tools: e.g. crowbars, pitch forks | Major: Deep wounds | Likely | High | * Safety check activity incorporated into sign on sheet * Age-appropriate training provided for all Under 18s in safe use of gardening tools. * First Aid kit available at site * Active children encouraged to play away from main garden area * Annual maintenance of garden tools (e.g. check mattock heads) |
| Trip hazards | Major: Sprains, broken bones | Likely | High | * Safety check activity incorporated into sign on sheet * First Aid kit available at site * Members encouraged to store tools so that they cannot be tripped over * Active children encouraged to play away from main garden area * All gardening members must wear enclosed shoes when on site. |
| Sun, heat | Moderate: Sunstroke; dehydration | likely | High | * Encourage wearing of hats * Provide 30+ sun cream protection * Water available on site * Shaded areas available for all students |
| Falling tree branches | Major: Broken bones; concussion | Rare | Medium | * Annual check for unsafe branches |
| Uneven ground, holes | Major: Sprains; broken bones | Possible | Medium | * Members encouraged to barricade and/or fill in holes * Use warning tape |
| Stings and bites – insects, spiders, ants | Minor: Swelling; pain; itching | likely | Medium | * First aid kit available at site |
| Inhalation of potting/ compost mixes | Major: Legionnaires disease | Rare | Medium | * Masks available in shed |
| Inappropriate conduct towards children and young people by garden visitors or other members of the public. | Major: Safety and wellbeing of children compromised/child abuse | Rare | low | * Warning parents of children that this area is not policed by the school and the public have ready access. * Parents encouraged to supervise children at regular garden activities. * Protective behaviours eg staying in sight, going to toilet in pairs/groups, checking with parents before leaving ‘line of sight’ area encouraged and promoted by garden members. |
| Recreational hazards: cyclists; soccer games,  running | Moderate: Injury from collision | Unlikely | Low | * Advising public and local residents of timing of garden activities and events * Advising members of the multi-functional nature of the area * Don’t run around the area always walk |
| Dogs off leash | Moderate: Bites, mauls | Unlikely | Low | * Advising members to stay away from dogs off leash. * Any problem dogs to be reported to owners, and if necessary, City Council. |
| Gardening equipment | Insignificant: Cuts, blisters, abrasions, chaffing | Possible | Low | * Safety check with sign on sheet * Encourage wearing of gloves |
| Vehicles | Major: Collision, injury to pedestrians/passers by from a slow-moving vehicle in the garden collection lane and access way. | Rare | Low | * Vehicular access padlocked and entry of vehicles to garden area minimised * Vehicles must move at slow pace 10kph |

# More information about risk rating system used.

**Consequence: What harm could happen as a result of the identified risk?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Descriptor | Examples |
| Insignificant | Injuries not requiring first aid |
| Minor | First aid required |
| Moderate | Medical treatment required |
| Major | Hospital admission required |
| Severe | Death or permanent disability to one or more persons |

**Likelihood: What is the likelihood of the determined consequence occurring?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Descriptor | Examples |
| Almost certain | Is expected to occur in most circumstances |
| Likely | Will probably occur in most circumstances |
| Possible | Could occur at some time |
| Unlikely | Not likely to occur in normal circumstances |
| Rare | May occur only in exceptional circumstances |

**Risk levels matrix**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Likelihood** | **Consequences** | | | | |
| **Insignificant** | **Minor** | **Moderate** | **Major** | **Severe** |
| **Rare** | Low | Low | Medium | Medium | Medium |
| **Unlikely** | Low | Low | Medium | Medium | High |
| **Possible** | Low | Medium | High | High | Very high |
| **Likely** | Medium | Medium | High | High | Very high |
| **Almost certain** | Medium | High | High | Very high | Very high |

**Recommended action**

Very high: Act immediately to lower the risk level to as low as reasonably practicable.

High: Act today to reduce the risk.

Medium: Act this week

Low: Act this month