



Play Risk Assessment for Den Building September 2024

Encouraging Outdoor Play and Learning

At Drybrook Primary School, we value the role of outdoor play in fostering creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. Den building allows children to engage in imaginative play, working together to construct their own spaces using natural and recycled materials. This activity encourages spatial awareness, fine motor skills, and cooperative learning, while also giving children the opportunity to interact with the natural environment.

Aims for Den Building

- Encourage teamwork and cooperative play.
- Support creativity and problem-solving through construction.
- Provide opportunities for children to engage with natural and recycled materials.

Identified Risks

Hazard	Controls
Trip hazards (tyres, crates, materials)	- Designate clear areas for building to avoid clutter. - Ensure materials are safely stacked or stored when not in use.
Falling structures	- Supervise construction to ensure stability. - Educate children on safe building practices.
Use of heavy or sharp objects	- Provide age-appropriate, safe materials (e.g., plastic crates, soft tyres) - Regularly inspect materials for damage or hazards
Injury from misuse of materials	- Supervise children to ensure adherence to safety guidelines. - Establish clear rules on the safe use of materials.
Injuries from weather conditions	- Monitor weather and suspend play in unsafe conditions (e.g., high winds) - Provide shaded areas and encourage hydration in hot weather.

Review and Monitoring

- **Frequency:** Weekly checks of the materials and storage.
- **Responsible Person:** Assigned staff member - caretaker
- **Record Keeping:** Weekly check document inspections and any incidents kept in the school office.

