



Strawberry How Nursery School, Strawberry How Road, Cockermouth CA13 9XQ Tel 01900 823322 email info@strawberryhownursery.com

Strawberry How Nursery School

Visit to Whinlatter Risk Assessment 39

This trip will take place between 9.30am –2.30pm.

Transport will consist of a small 33 seater coach (with a driver who has been DBS checked) supplied by Robert Benson. The coach will remain with the group. Parents were initially given notification via a letter and in the Nursery's May newsletter and by email, they were asked to request a place if they wished their child to participate.

The children will have their morning snack before they leave the nursery. Their packed lunches will include a carton of fresh fruit juice, a sausage sandwich, an apple, squeezey tube yoghurt and a packet of crisps.

Mr Richardson and Mrs Richardson will visit the site the day before the visit to ensure the forest/ yurt area is safe and free of any dangerous items.

The children will leave the Nursery at 9.30am on the coach and travel to the Whinlatter Forest. Once there, they will meet up with the Forest tour guide. They will be led around the Forest by the guide for approximately 1hr 30 mins. The children will be eating lunch in the enclosed yurt area in the forest.

Reconnaissance information attached.

Risks defined 1 – 5 (with 5 offering significant risk)

Assessment of Risk – the overall setting – Whinlatter Forest/ The Yurt (RA 1)

Whinlatter Forest is approximately 5.7 miles away from the nursery. It will take 20 mins to get there by coach. There is good, safe access to Whinlatter Forest from the bus without crossing any roads. This risk assessment is to be used alongside the Whinlatter Forest general risk assessment, (see in risk assessment file).

Assessment of Risk – Clothing (RA1)

Parents will be advised by letter to dress their children in clothing suitable for an outside forest walk/activity bearing in mind the changeable nature of Cumbrian weather. Children will need suitable footwear for walking on gravelled and mud paths. If any child has a cut or graze on their hand this must be covered with a waterproof dressing.

Assessment of Risk – Transport to Whinlatter (RA 1)

A small 33 seater coach with driver has been hired from Robert Benson. The coach is fitted with seat belts – no children will occupy the front seats, and child booster seats (platform type) will be used to accommodate standard seat belt fittings. Nursery will provide booster seats for all the children. Distance = 5 miles and takes 20 minutes along country roads.

Assessment of Risk – Footpaths (RA 1-2)

From the parking area to the gated entrance of the path the ground under foot is RA2 with loose gravel and a dry hard surface. The children will need to be carefully supervised from the car park to the entrance of the foot path. The footpaths within the forest are largely firmed gravel or dry mud and while they provide a small risk of slipping this is acceptable at RA1.5.

Assessment of Risk – Food (RA 1)

The children will have a snack and drink during their time playing in and around the small clearing and woodland area. Food to be taken on the trip will include apples, tube yoghurts, ice poles and fruit strips. A member of staff will be responsible for the preparing and distributing this snack. All the children will have their hands thoroughly washed (alcohol-based hand wash) before, during and on their return. During their visit the children will be instructed to keep their hands away from their mouths.

Assessment of Risk – Medical (RA 1)

This risk assessment identifies a medical risk from the visit as no greater than any normal activity within the outside confines of the Nursery, however, please refer to the Whinlatter Risk Assessment 'Forest Environment' and 'Contracting Disease/Infection' which identify specific areas for the staff to be aware of. There is also an element of walking on unlevelled ground which will be supervised by the adults. The walk to the clearing is actually far shorter than the recent walk to Cockermouth.

Items to take on the visit will include:

- First Aid kit
- Bucket/Paper towels
- Bottled Hand Wash
- Mobile telephones
- Emergency telephone numbers
- Medical information
- Play Equipment
- Food
- Large bottle of water
- Paper napkins and plastic cups
- Black Bin Bags