

Outdoor learning areas: Guide to the education risk benefit assessment template

"Children and young people need to encounter some real risks if they are to respond positively to challenging situations and learn how to deal with uncertainty. This cannot be achieved by limiting them to supposedly safe environments. Therefore, providers of play opportunities have no choice but to offer situations in which children and young people can experience real, not make-believe, hazards"

From Managing Risk in Play Provision, by Ball, Gill and Spiegel

Risk Management

Risk is inherent within our educational and every day activities. The aim of managing risk is to minimise negative outcomes NOT

Example

Activity	Climbing Trees	
Risk Assessment	Source	4 possible trees in Outdoor Learning Area with 2 suitable for climbing re accessible limbs Falls from tree
Overall Preliminary Risk Assessment	Moderate	
	Measures in place	Install sofffall (bark chips) under the tree to a depth of 300mm under the climbing limbs or position impact absorbing mats on the fall zone (under the limbs)
	Additional measures	

