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| Subject of risk assessment: | Parkland and park venues | | | | |
| Brief description of activity, location, feature, activity and equipment used. | A standard park or parkland with flat or undulating ground, scattered trees, bushes and planting in open grass (mown and un-maintained).  Large gardens. Botanical gardens or grounds of houses may also be included under this category.  Any activity (play, learning, training and meeting) that LTL staff undertake with children or adults that uses a public or private park, large garden (formal and informal) or parkland including empty farm fields. | | | | |
| Type of assessment  (if play design process) |  |  | | |  |
| Job title and name of person making assessment | Matt Robinson | | Signature of person making assessment |  | |
| Date of Assessment | 21 December 2021 | | Review Date | 1st January 2023 | |
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| Name of senior manager: | Carley Sefton | | Signature of senior manager: |  | |
| **Risk Management Statement**  LTL recognises that all risks cannot be reduced to nil; therefore this risk assessment prioritises the significant risks. Significant risks are those which pose risk of serious injury, chronic injury, disability or death, or risks that are overly common in interrupting our staff and clients normal work. For all activities, LTL staff will dynamically assesses risks and put in place control measures and record as required, but always within agreed and recorded RBAs.  Concerns, changes in risk management practice or minor injuries that are seen by LTL staff to be significant should be reported to the LTL manager who has signed off this RBA. The correct LTL Incident Report form should be used.  **This RBA should be read in conjunction with LTL’s Health and Safety Policy, other relevant LTL Risk Benefit Assessments and LTL Play Policy (as appropriate).** | | | | | |

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| Activity or feature: | The **activity** being undertaken is outlined in the relevant specific LTL Risk Benefit Assessment that will work in conjunction with this Parkland Risk Benefit Assessment.  Typical activities include:  Free play, with children allowed to play around the woodland, under supervision of adults, although not always within site.  Training and learning opportunities, where children and adults may be undertaking field study, science, numeracy and literacy activities, creating art work and general studying.  Travelling (walking, running, cycling, scootering) through an area. |
| How will participants benefit? | Fresh air, relaxation, physical, mental and social health and wellbeing improvements.  Enhanced knowledge of subject which forms the focus of the session, both of the location the group is in and a stimulus for creativity and problem solving.  Communication and social interaction between adults and children.  Connection with nature / the natural world.  Using local or different environments to support learning.  Enjoyment and fun |
| Who will be at risk? | LTL Staff  Participants (adult and children)  Members of the public |
| Any local factors that may affect risks or controls: | Consideration should be given to seeking landowner permission, especially with a large group or for activities such as fire lighting or den building. |
| Possible hazards and risks: | Slips, trips and falls resulting in injury, especially if the terrain is challenging for the group (adult and child). Impacts and collisions between group members playing games (free and structured) that lead to significant injury.  Running into, bumping or falling on objects that will injure, including rocks, tree branches and sharp edges.  Dogs attacking.  Dangerous litter being handled, stepped on or fallen on, leading to injury or harm.  Becoming lost, running away, isolated or being abducted, leading to harm or fear.  Members of public behaving inappropriately – aggression or fear-inducing.  Inclement weather (such as high wind, snow and ice) leading to increased possibility for injury or harm, or unusual injury (such as flying objects or falling trees).  Ingestion of toxins or poisons from flora and fauna.  Zoonosis – Toxoplasmosis, E-Coli 157, Lyme disease and Weil’s disease.  Depending on location, proximity to moving vehicles on roads, car parks or in park. |
| Precautions and control measures to reduce the risk severity or likelihood: | Awareness of the terrain and equipment in situ, and groups competencies to move around area safely.  A method of gathering the group and checking numbers, relevant to age of group and area being used. LTL staff to be aware of members of public interacting with group, and to challenge or intervene if needed. Participants and leaders clear about the limits of how far they can travel from a ‘base’.  Games and activities are to be relevant to the group, and any physical games (free or structured) to be monitored appropriate to the group. Area restricted in light of extra risks (waters edge and vehicles particularly).  Group advised to stand still if approached by dog, LTL staff vigilance.  Highlight dangers of litter, and group advised ‘Don’t know? Don’t touch.’  LTL staff to be aware of current and forecast weather, and judgement made as to the effect on the location. Particular care should be taken in high wind, or around some species of tree (Beech and Scots pine) or plantations.  Group advised not to eat wild/scavenged food apart from blackberries, raspberries, strawberries or blueberries, and to do so above dog fouling level and away from busy areas and paths. LTL Flora and Fauna Risk Benefit analysis to apply.  Zoonosis – Toxoplasmosis, E-Coli 157, Lyme disease and Weils disease. LTL Flora and Fauna Risk Benefit analysis to apply.  All LTL staff delivering training courses will hold a relevant emergency first aid qualification, appropriate to the training being led, and carry a first aid kit. |
| Precedents or comparisons: | Parks and parkland are designed for public access, and use of them is encouraged for all ages and for a wide variety of uses.  The Play Safety Forum and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents offers much advice for park and parkland managers, and our Risk Benefit Assessments reflect this advice.  Parks, parklands and gardens are often very similar to school grounds in nature and maintenance standards. |
| Judgement: | Parks, parkland and gardens offer a rich resource for learning and play.  They offer minimal extra risk beyond the school playground. Main risks that LTL staff will be aware of are dogs, vehicles and the ability to be lost/separated.  We consider parks, parkland and gardens a good place for our staff and participants. |