

# Activity Risk Assessment

## Lighting Small Fires



### A. Activity

Building and lighting a small fire to cook food on.

### B. Risks and to whom

Children and Adults

Minor burns.

Hot ashes, or cinders.

Sticks placed in the fire.

Wood 'spitting'

### Severity

Medium

Medium

Medium

Medium

Medium

### C. Likelihood

Low with control measures in place

### E. Further Measures

Forest School Leader will ensure the fire is fully extinguished and tided before leaving the site.

### Fire Policy

Campfires and the use of storm kettles are an important part of Forest School and are used in many sessions. Rockwood Nursery School aims to ensure that all children and adults participating in sessions with fires will do so safely and with as little risk to their health as possible.

### Location

- Only previously agreed areas will be used for campfires.
- Campfire areas are enclosed by logs or large stones to prevent the spread of fire.

- Storm kettles are only used on flat ground and any woodchip or leaf litter must be brushed away before use.

### Positioning of Children and Adults

- Fire areas are surrounded by seating logs at least 1.5 metres from the fire pit.
- Children must be supervised whilst around the campfire at all times and the fire should never be left unattended.
- When accessing or moving around the campfire, children must walk around the outside of the log circle, then remain sitting on the logs whilst they are around the fire.
- Long trousers and shoes must always be worn.
- Children are not permitted to throw anything onto the fire.
- Fires will not be lit in strong winds.

Only adults are permitted to light fires, unless children are under the direct supervision of a member of staff.

- No flammable liquids or plastics are to be used on the fire.
- If sessions involve children adding fuel to the fire, this must be done with one to one adult supervision.
- Water should always be to hand during campfire sessions.
- At the end of the session, the fire must be extinguished with water until all smoke and steam has ceased.

