RISK BENEFIT ASSESSMENT – Loppers

**Low risk- Something resulting in a minor injury eg a scratch or a bruise**

**Medium risk- something resulting in significant loss/ damage or an injury such as a broken bone which requires hospital treatment**

**High risk- something that results in extensive loss/ damage, multiple injuries or death**

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| Location/ Activity: | Stoneydelph Forest School | Date: | December 2021 |
| FS Leader: |  Mrs J Parry | Review Date: | December 2022 |

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| Activity | How will young people BENEFIT from the activity? | Possible Hazards | Overall risk ratingsLow/ Med/ High | Who is at risk? | Precautions in place to reduce risk of injury | Risk rating following precautions |
| Trips or falls with loppers when transporting them | Children having the opportunity to select, collect and return their own tool gives them a deeper sense of ownership over the activity | Slips, trips and falls Severe Cuts, grazes, abrasions and bruises | High | Children/ adults | Ensure safe working area with minimal trip hazardsTool always to be transported with cover onTool talks before use, and children taught how to carry the loppers safely | Medium |
| Incorrect use of tool | Site management and ownership over their time in the forest is an integral part of Forest school Learning | Severe Cuts, grazes, abrasions and bruises | High  | Children/ adults | Anyone using loppers will have had a tool talkFirst aiders close by and First Aid kit always on site1:1 supervisionBlade cover always on and stored safely when not in use | Medium |
| Falling branches whilst cutting | Being able to use loppers gives children ownership over their learningAnd allows them to assist with woodland management | Bumps, bruises and cuts from falling branches | High | Children/ adults | Ensure high branches are correctly supportedEnsure other children are clear of the working areaEnsure everyone is aware of the correct procedure for using the loppers | Medium |
| Blades snapping or bouncing | Learners need to be informed of what the blade should look like so that they are able to inform the Forest School leader if there is a problem- Ownership  | Severe Cuts, grazes, abrasions and bruises | High | Children/ adults | Tool maintenance keeps loppers blades sharp and usableNo gloves to be worn to prevent slippingGroup to be informed of where to position themselves and the tool so that if a slip occurs it won’t make contact with a personIf a problem is spotted with the blades then it should be reported to the FS LeaderTool to then be decommissioned whilst investigatedTools to be checked before use  | Medium |