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 ratings  Low/ 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 hazards  Tool always to be transported with cover on  Tool 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 talk  First aiders close by and First Aid kit always on site  1:1 supervision  Blade 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 learning  And allows them to assist with woodland management | Bumps, bruises and cuts from falling branches | High | Children/ adults | Ensure high branches are correctly supported  Ensure other children are clear of the working area  Ensure 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 usable  No gloves to be worn to prevent slipping  Group to be informed of where to position themselves and the tool so that if a slip occurs it won’t make contact with a person  If a problem is spotted with the blades then it should be reported to the FS Leader  Tool to then be decommissioned whilst investigated  Tools to be checked before use | Medium |