



## Fire Risk Assessment for Learning Grove Education (Forest School Alternative Provision)

### 1. Introduction:

This fire risk assessment is a crucial component of Learning Grove Education's overall health and safety policy. It specifically addresses the use of fire within our Forest School activities, including students learning fire lighting skills. Our aim is to minimize the risk of fire-related incidents while still providing valuable learning experiences.

### 2. Legal Requirements:

This fire risk assessment is conducted in accordance with relevant fire safety legislation and guidance, including [List relevant legislation, e.g., the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005].

### 3. Fire Hazards:

The following fire hazards have been identified within our Forest School setting:

- **Open Fires:** The use of campfires or other open fires for cooking, warmth, or educational purposes.
- **Fire Lighting Activities:** Students learning fire lighting skills using matches, lighters, fire steels, or other methods.
- **Flammable Materials:** The presence of flammable materials such as dry leaves, wood, paper, and certain types of clothing.
- **Equipment:** Faulty or misused equipment, such as cooking stoves or gas cylinders.
- **Weather Conditions:** Dry and windy conditions can significantly increase the risk of fire spread.

### 4. People at Risk:

The following people may be at risk from fire:

- Students
- Staff
- Visitors
- Contractors
- Wildlife and nature



## 5. Risk Assessment Matrix:

Hazard	Likelihood	Severity	Risk level	Control Measures
Open fires	M	H	H	Designated fire area, fire pit or raised platform, fire safety equipment (water, fire blanket), trained staff supervision, safe distance maintained, no flammable materials nearby, fire extinguished thoroughly after use.
Fire lighting activities	M	H	H	Trained staff instruction and supervision, age-appropriate methods and equipment, clear safety rules, designated fire lighting area, individual risk assessments for students, close monitoring of student actions.
Flammable materials	H	M	H	Regular clearing of dry leaves and debris, designated storage for flammable materials, guidance on appropriate clothing for fire activities, no smoking policy.
Equipment	L	H	M	Regular inspection and maintenance of equipment, correct usage demonstrated by staff, faulty equipment removed from use immediately.
Weather conditions	Variable	H	M-H	Fire activities cancelled or postponed in high-risk weather conditions (e.g., strong winds, dry spells), weather monitoring before and during activities.

## 6. Control Measures:

The following control measures are in place to mitigate fire risks:

- **Designated Fire Area:** Fires will only be lit in a designated fire area, which will be clear of flammable materials and surrounded by a fire break.
- **Fire Pit/Raised Platform:** Fires will be contained within a fire pit or on a raised platform to prevent ground fires.
- **Fire Safety Equipment:** Fire safety equipment, such as water buckets, fire blankets, and first aid kits (including burn treatment), will be readily available near the fire area.



# LEARNING GROVE EDUCATION LIMITED

- **Trained Staff:** All staff involved in fire-related activities will receive appropriate training on fire safety, fire lighting techniques, and emergency procedures.
- **Supervision:** Students will be closely supervised during all fire-related activities, with appropriate staff-to-student ratios maintained.
- **Safety Rules:** Clear safety rules will be established and communicated to all students before engaging in fire activities.
- **Age-Appropriate Activities:** Fire lighting activities will be age-appropriate and tailored to the students' abilities and understanding.
- **Individual Risk Assessments:** Individual risk assessments will be conducted for students with specific needs or concerns.
- **Clothing:** Students will be advised to wear appropriate clothing for fire activities, avoiding highly flammable materials like nylon or polyester.
- **Weather Monitoring:** Weather conditions will be monitored before and during fire activities, and activities will be cancelled or postponed if necessary.
- **Fire Extinguishment:** Fires will be extinguished thoroughly after use, with checks made to ensure no embers remain.
- **Emergency Procedures:** Emergency procedures will be in place for dealing with fire-related incidents, including burns, clothing fires, and uncontrolled fire spread.
- **Incident Reporting:** All fire-related incidents, including near misses, will be reported and investigated.

## 7. Training:

All staff will receive training on the following:

- Fire safety awareness
- Fire lighting techniques
- Use of fire safety equipment
- Emergency procedures
- Risk assessment procedures

## 8. Review:

This fire risk assessment will be reviewed annually or more frequently if there are significant changes in legislation, guidance, or our activities.

## 9. Communication:

This fire risk assessment will be communicated to all staff and will be made available to students and parents/carers upon request.



# LEARNING GROVE EDUCATION LIMITED

## **10. Monitoring:**

The effectiveness of these control measures will be monitored regularly through observations, inspections, and feedback from staff and students.

This fire risk assessment is a living document and will be updated as needed. It is the responsibility of all staff to be familiar with this assessment and to follow the procedures outlined within it.