

Play & Creative Arts Therapy Schools Risk Assessment



Risk Assessment Form

Activity: <i>Play & Creative Arts Therapy</i>	School Name:
People at Risk: <i>Play / Creative Arts Therapist and Child</i>	Additional Information: <i>Clear Sky covered by Indemnity and Public Liability Insurance up to £5m</i>

Risk Evaluation

Hazard	Risk	Rating	Existing Control Measures	Additional Action Required (action by whom, by when)
Aggressive behavior	Therapist and child	L	Clear boundaries set out and maintained by therapist. Child in a calm environment and therapist will attempt to de-escalate the situation through appropriate reflection, body language and touch (if necessary)	Child given clear boundaries at the start of sessions. Should it be appropriate the therapist may channel the aggression in an activity outside the Play Therapy room in a safe space (e.g. playground) to allow for more space to minimize the potential for becoming a target. The therapist may choose to end the session if appropriate.
Vandalism of Play Therapy Kit	Therapist and child	L	Clear boundaries set at beginning of sessions. There should be no fixtures or fittings that could be easily removed from Play Room interior, apart from the toys provided. An uncluttered and comfortable space should be provided for the sessions.	Child reminded of boundaries and therapist to 'bring down' the level of aggression through appropriate reflection and body language. Therapist to end the session if necessary.
Cuts/scrapes	Therapist and child	L	Carefully selected items within the Play Therapy kit, designed not to cause harm or injury to the child using the toys	Therapist to be aware of who the First Aid trained person within the school is. Children's play to be monitored, children to be reminded of clear boundaries at all times and allowed to take managed risks.
Therapist left alone with child - emergencies	Therapist and child	L	Clear boundaries given to child. Someone else always aware that there is one-to-one sessions taking place in the designated room.	Therapists to keep their phones nearby in play room in case of emergency. Schools to be aware of the fact that staff may be called upon for help.
Trip hazards	Therapist and child	M	Ensure that child is aware that you are there to keep them safe. Therapist to manage the risk for the child, reminding them when they may not be safe.	Therapist to manage the boundaries and safety in the room. Therapist to place the empty toolkit in a place so it is not accessible to the child.

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Allergies	Child	L	Parents to sign consent form giving consent for the use of paint and baby wipes within the sessions, detailing any medical needs and allergies on the referral form.	Therapist to ensure that no food is brought into the therapy room.
Medical needs	Child and therapist	L	Parents to disclose any medical needs to therapist in the first instance, and to detail this on the referral form.	Therapist to have appropriate training for any medication that may need to be administered if necessary (e.g. Emergency medication for Epilepsy). School to ensure that a member of staff will be available to the therapist should they need additional support for children with medical conditions. School to make walkie talkies available if necessary.
Safeguarding vulnerable children	Child and therapist	M	Therapist to follow the safeguarding procedure of the school. Therapist to use Clear Sky's Safeguarding Report form to detail specific incidents or disclosures that may happen in sessions. All Therapists to have attended Safeguarding Training.	Clear Sky have a Touch Policy, outlining what is acceptable during a session. Therapists will detail brief information about each session as a legal record of events taken place in chronological order.
Allegations made against Therapist	Therapist	L	Therapists to abide by a strict code of ethics at all times when working with children. Therapists to follow all Clear Sky policies and procedures at all times.	Therapists should work with school staff to complete a risk assessment for any children who are likely to make false accusations about adults. Therapists to seek advice from supervisor about any children they are concerned about.
Choking hazards	Child	L	Few objects small enough to swallow, one-to-one sessions with child and therapist allows close monitoring of objects being put in mouths.	Child will be reminded of boundaries and what is and is not acceptable in the play room.
Signature: Job Title: CEO			Name: Sophia Giblin. Date: 01/09/2016	
			Review Date: 01/09/2017	