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| Service Name: |  | | |
| Staff Member Responsible for Risk Assessment: |  | Date: |  |

**Details of Risk**

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| Risk Identified: | | Fungi, Mushrooms and Poisonous plants in the service environment | | |
| Details of Educators at the service: | | | | |
| Full Name | | | Position | |
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| Number of Educators: |  | | Number of Children: |  |

**Activities, Risks & Hazards**

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| Proposed activity, and the link to your program: |
| At certain times of the year plants grow in the outdoor play areas that may be hazardous to children and adults.  For example, Fungi and Mushrooms in Autumn and around pine trees and Deadly Nightshade in spring/summer.  While our programs support nature play, respect and wonder of our natural environment we need to manage hazards and risks for children’s safety (QA 1 educational program & practice, QA 2 Children’s health & safety).  To balance both these aims we will educate children about the plants and fungi in their natural environment as well as remove hazards as required. |

**IDENTIFICATION OF RISKS & HAZARDS AND HOW THESE ARE TO BE MANAGED**

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| **Identify any Hazards or Risks associated with Poisonous plants in yard** | **How will the risks be minimized and managed and who is responsible?** | **Are the risks:**  Very likely likely  Unlikely  very unlikely | **Are the risks:**  Extreme  Major  Moderate  Minor |
| 1. Hazardous/   poisonous plant in the kindergarten environment. | * Yard checks performed daily identify if there are any hazardous plants. * Plants removed by staff using gloves and plastic bags, immediately disposed of in rubbish bin. | likely | Major |
| 1. Children not being aware of poisonous plants | * Educating children through planned and incidental conversations for safety around Fungi, Mushrooms and identified poisonous plants. * Regular revisit conversations/instruction in planned and incidental ways, for example before transitioning to outside play. * Clear explanation of what the plants/fungi look like. | likely | Moderate |
| 1. Families unaware of plants in environment | * Post information to families via Storypark and other communication tools about plants in the yard and actions being taken to manage the risks. * Support families to assist children’s education around the risks of certain plants, mushrooms and fungi through sharing information both written and verbal. | Likely | Minor |
| 1. Child touches Fungi/poisonous plant | * Children instructed to tell staff member. * Children are to wash hands immediately. | likely | Moderate |
| 1. Child places plant in their mouth or ingests it | * Children instructed to tell a staff member immediately. * **Contact poison information- 131 12**   **Follow their instructions**   * **Contact family** * **Contact ECKA Office Jo Geurts (CEO) or Janine Tardew (OM)** | Unlikely | Major |
| 1. Staff unaware of which plants and Mushrooms or fungi are poisonous | * Management providing a chart of known plants * Establishing all fungi/mushrooms are possible dangerous so they need to be removed when discovered in children’s environment. | likely | Moderate |
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| Has the risk assessment been communicated to all staff? | YES | *COMMENTS* |
| NO |

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| How will the Risk Assessment be made available for families? | *COMMENTS* |

**ENDORSEMENT EEA, OM or CEO**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** |  | | |
| **Signature** |  | **Date** |  |