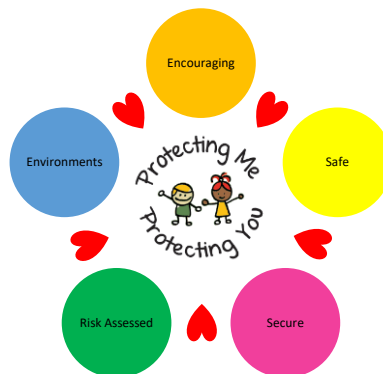


Auchinairn Early Years Centre Health & Safety Risk Assessment



Date	October 2025
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Nursery Activities: Gardening

Activity	Hazards	Potential Loss	Risk	Person at Risk	Control Measures	Additional Measures
Setting up gardening area	Lifting heavy soil	Muscle strain Trip	1 (1x1)	Staff	Use correct lifting technique Ensure clear walkways	Regular area checks
Using gardening tools	Cuts Tripping	Minor injury	2 (1x2)	Children Staff	Demonstrate safe tool use Close supervision	Inspect tools for damage
Handling soil and compost	Bacteria exposure Allergic reaction	Minor illness	1 (1x1)	Children Staff	Use gloves Wash hands after use	Check for animal waste or debris
Planting and digging	Tripping Inspect bites Splinters	Minor injury	1 (1x1)	Children	Supervise closely Ensure uneven ground	Risk assess area before session
Watering plants	Slips on wet surface	Minor injury	1 (1x1)	Children Staff	Supervise water use Mop up spills	Use of non slip mats for indoors only
Outdoor exposure	Sunburn Dehydration Cold exposure	Illness Discomfort	2 (1x2)	Children Staff	Apply sun cream Provide hats and clean drinking water	Cancel in extreme weather

Insects or wildlife	Bites/Stings allergic reactions	Minor injury	1 (1x1)	Children Staff	Discuss safe behaviour Avoid disturbing nests First aid box available	Monitor for allergic reactions
Use of fertilizers	Chemical exposure	Serious illness	3 (1x3)	Children Staff	Only use child safe toxic products Staff to handle chemicals Store securely	Review product safety information
Tidying up Storage	Trips Sharp edges on tools	Minor injury	1 (1x1)	Children Staff	Store tools and pots safely Check ground for hazards	Ongoing monitoring

	Likelihood that hazardous events will occur		Consequences	Risk rating	Action
1	very unlikely	1	insignificant – no injury	20-25	Stop – stop activity and take immediate action
2	unlikely	2	minor – minor injuries needing first aid	15-16	Urgent action – take immediate action and stop activity if necessary, maintain existing controls rigorously
3	fairly likely	3	moderate – up to three days absence	8-12	Action – improve within specified timescale
4	likely	4	major – more than seven days absence	3-6	Monitor – look to improve at next review or if there is a significant change
5	Very likely	5	catastrophic - death	1-2	No action – no further action but ensure controls are maintained and reviewed



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