Risk Assessment

Activity: *Play and Creative Arts Therapy*	**Setting: School**
People at Risk: *Play and Creative Arts Therapist and child*	**Additional Information:** *Clear Sky Covered by Indemnity and Public Liability Insurance up to £5m*

Risk Evaluation

Hazard	Risk	Rating	Existing Control Measures	Additional Action Required (action by whom, by when)
Aggressive behaviour	Therapist and child	L	Clear boundaries set out and maintained by therapist. Child in a calm environment and therapist will attempt to deescalate 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 and Creative Arts Therapy room in a safe space (e.g. playground) to allow for more space and to minimize the potential for becoming a target. The therapist may choose to end the session if appropriate. School to make walkie talkies available if necessary.
Vandalism of Play and Creative Arts 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 Therapy Room interior, apart from the toys provided. An uncluttered and comfortable Play and Creative Arts Therapy 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 and Creative Arts 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

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				managed risks.
Therapist left alone with child - emergencies	Therapist and child	L	Clear boundaries given to child. Someone else always aware that there are one-to-one sessions taking place in the designated room.	Therapists to keep their phones nearby in therapy room in case of emergency. Schools to be aware of the fact that staff may be called upon for help.
Trip hazards – Play and Creative Arts Therapy kit	Therapist and child	M	Ensure that child is aware that the Therapist is 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.
Allergies	Child	L	Parents to sign consent form giving consent for the use of paint and baby wipes within sessions, detailing any medical needs and allergies on the referral form.	The therapist should check and adhere to the school's allergy policy. The therapist should not bring in any foods onto site that the school has been banned due to allergies. If the therapist is bringing food into the therapy space to share with a child, they must ensure they have thoroughly checked the child's referral form to ensure that they do not have any allergies. The therapist should get written confirmation from school to confirm that they are happy with them sharing the type of food planned with a child during their sessions. Prior to sharing food with a child, the therapist should confirm with the child's parent/carer that they agree to this and that the child has not developed any allergies or dietary requirements since referral. The therapist should not make or bake any food to bring into the playroom due to risk of cross contamination. Only shop bought goods, with clear ingredients lists should be taken into the playroom, after confirmation from both school and parent/ carer.

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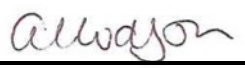
Medical needs	Child and Therapist	L	Parents to disclose any medical needs to therapist in first instance, and to detail this on referral form.	Therapist to have appropriate training for any medication that may need to be administered if necessary (e.g. Emergency medication for epilepsy). School to ensure 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	Therapists all hold enhanced DBS and completed appropriate Safeguarding Training. Therapist follows both Clear Sky Child Protection Policy AND School's Child Protection policy. Therapist will report concerns to Clear Sky Safeguarding Officer and School Safeguarding Officer.	Clear Sky have Child Protection Policies including 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 ensure that there is a window in the therapy room that an adult can see through. Therapists ensure that other adults are in rooms close by when they are working in a space with a child.	Therapists should work with school staff to complete a risk assessment for any children who are likely to make false allegations about adults. Therapists to seek advice from supervisor about any children they are concerned about.
Choking hazard - small parts of toys/Lego	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 Therapy Room.

Signature:  **Name:** Anna Hodgson, Charity Director **Date:** 29/06/2026 **Review Date:** 29/06/2027