



Site Risk Assessment Form

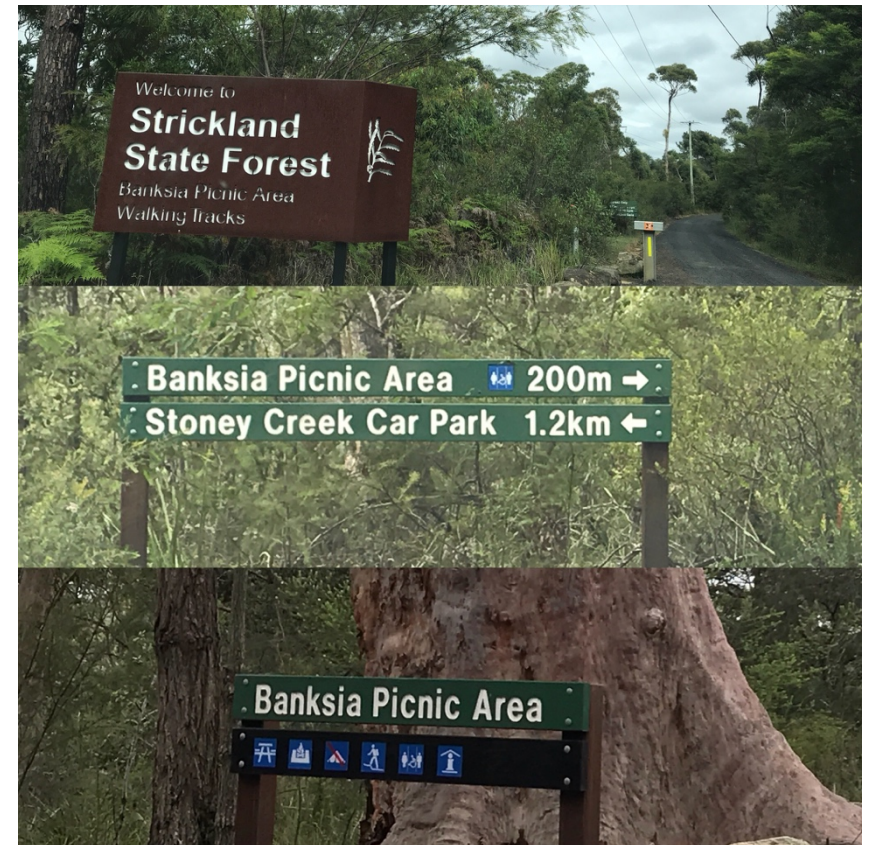
Central Coast NSW Stone & Sprocket Nature Programs

Location: Banksia Picnic Area, Strickland Road, Strickland State Forest, Somersby.

Purpose: Early Childhood Facilitated Outdoor Playgroup
Please find full details of program attached.

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Parking: Families will park their cars in the first two bays of the Banksia Picnic Area. There is ample parking for 20 families.





Hazard (Risk)	Benefits (Risk)	Risk Level	Action	Adjusted Level
<p>Accessing the site, road to site narrow</p>	<p>Increased awareness of surroundings using proprioceptive/motor planning skills and senses.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Stone & Sprocket facilitators walk track prior to beginning. Offer an 'open day' session two weeks before commencing group. Provide participants with a map of the area and parking explicitly outlining the narrow roads and tracks.</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Boundaries: no fences around car park and some decline drop off points</p>	<p>Increased awareness of surroundings.</p> <p>Agency in knowing own limits and creating own limits of safety and security.</p> <p>Building autonomy and trust.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Stone & Sprocket facilitators will walk the boundaries prior and upon commencement provide a high visibility 'anchor point' where children and families know to come back to. Children and families will be engage in a 'walk the boundary' session where they will be invited to create the boundaries for the children. Stone & Sprocket facilitators will explicitly highlight the hazard of cars in the car park and the 'drop off/ decline areas. Families will undertake boundary crossing at their own risk.</p>	<p>Medium</p>



<p>General Public: Friends of Strickland walk groups , local schools and local rangers, Bush walkers, no animals allowed, however this may occur.</p> <p>Recreation: use of drugs and material for this left behind.</p>	<p>Awareness of being part of a group.</p> <p>Social inclusion and respect.</p> <p>Advocacy for play and nature.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Stone & Sprocket facilitators will provide families with information about using a public space the and begin a discussion about respectful and communal harmony.</p> <p>Stone & Sprocket will have a sharps disposal kit and remove the hazardous material and drop it to the nearest sharps disposal centre using https://www.safesharps.org.au</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Canopy Layer: Dead wood hanging from trees. Fauna: Willy wagtail, kookaburra, currawong, eastern yellow only spotted</p>	<p>Increased long distance sight.</p> <p>Respect for local fauna and flora.</p> <p>Appreciation of beauty and awe of canopy layer of habitat.</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Stone & Sprocket facilitators will monitor weather conditions using the BOM App 24 hours leading up to the playgroup. If conditions are severe a text message or email will be sent to notify families of a cancellation due high winds and canopy dead wood falling hazard.</p> <p>In the event of mild winds, the canopy will be monitored and children and families encouraged to increase awareness and avoid hazardous areas.</p>	<p>Low</p>



			A 'refuge' post will be pointed out to families to seek out in the vent of an unpredictable situation. Banksia Picnic Area has a large COLA to seek refuge.	
Field Layer: Fallen trees, loose sticks, twigs, rocks and leaves.	<p>Opportunity to use muscles required to steady entire body from core.</p> <p>Learning to navigate and increase awareness about surroundings.</p> <p>Increased awareness of importance of multiple sensory experience. Changes in temperature, form and texture.</p>	Medium	<p>Stone & Sprocket facilitators will point out fallen logs and sticks to families and role model how to check stability, inhabitants and suitability for play.</p> <p>Stone & Sprocket facilitators will role model how to check under rocks and encourage families to make children aware that rocks are homes for animals and insects.</p> <p>Stone & Sprocket facilitators will demonstrate hoe to step on the middle of a stick to avoid one end flipping up and causing injury.</p>	Low
Ground Layer: Logs slippery, twigs sticking up, undulating ground,	Opportunity to use muscles required to steady entire body from core. Learning to	Medium	Stone & Sprocket facilitators will explicitly point out the slip hazards and encourage	Medium/Low



moss and lichen on boulders slippery.	navigate and increase awareness about surroundings.		families and children to wear sturdy and gripped footwear.	
Ground dwelling spider hole, no spider sighted as yet. Ant holes more than 20.	Increased awareness of importance of multiple sensory experience. Changes in temperature, form and texture.	Low	Stone and Sprocket facilitators will point out the holes to families and educate them on the species, habitat, defense mechanisms and level of danger to humans. Ice pack, sting goes and avoidance is the plan of action for Hoppy Joes.	Low
Hoppy Joe bites have occurred with no lasting effects		Med		Med/low
Leeches have attached a number of times in wet low lying areas		Low		Low
Snakes – no sightings	Learning about how to start a fire (science), positioning body for strength and proprioceptive	Med/high	No snakes have been sighted yet. Facilitators will teach children response: snake dance to create vibration and hand up and calmly but loudly say snake and remain still.	Med
Fire pits		Low/med		Fire pits are to be checked by staff for hot coals before families arrive. Families and children will be introduced to fire suing candles, then fairy



	awareness, using charcoal for filter and art		fires, then use of fire pits. Red rope to limit amount of children around fire. Glove on fire stick hand, use of flints and bucket of water and sand nearby for extinguishing Facilitators are to check the RFS Webpage 24 hour leading up to the session and will judge each request to make fire based on experience level of staff, children and level of weather condition severity.	
Access to shelter, protection and toilets	Increased awareness of surroundings and navigation.	Low	Families will be walked to the toilet and shelter areas on the open day as an orientation.	Low
Waste disposal, organics and human waste	Impact on soil composition and sustainability.	Medium	Families will be shown the public bin and Stone & Sprocket facilitators will bring a bucket for scraps that will be taken home with either a facilitator or family member to add to compost or chicken feed. Stone & Sprocket facilitators will be responsible for taking away any man made products	Low



			<p>used for activities with the children.</p> <p>Families will be encouraged to remind children about the pit toilet</p>	
Tank water only.	Self care and awareness of orientation	Medium	Families will be encouraged to bring their own drinking water and use tank water at own risk. Facilitators will point out the no drinking sign to children and families and provide tap water container for play and emergency drinking water.	Low
Extreme weather conditions	Awareness of surroundings	High	<p>Families will be notified by text message if there is a high wind risk or high fire danger and the playgroup will be cancelled.</p> <p>A medium risk will be also notified by text message and families will be asked to leave the reserve if risk increases.</p> <p>Both RFS and BoM apps used to monitor conditions leading up to the session.</p>	Medium