



FLINTS / COASTAL PERMACULTURE CHILDREN AND CAREGIVERS GROUP

BY NEWGATE GAP CIC

UPDATED 1ST MARCH 2026

Hosted by:
Newgate Gap CIC

Risk Assessment for :
FLINTS Coastal Permaculture Children and Caregivers Group

Date of Activity :
Term times only, weekly, Thursdays 10am - 12pm
Additional seasonal holiday events for fundraising and to mark the solstices.

Facilitators:
Helen Smith
Newton See
Soni De Paola

Director of Newgate Gap CIC and Project Manager:
Newton See

Site:
Newgate Gap beach and Newgate Gap Project Space.

General Safety Advice

Clothing:

Long trousers and long sleeves, sun or warm hat, warm clothing in cold weather, waterproof clothing in wet weather. Spare clothing available in the Newgate Gap building for emergencies.

Communications:

Mobile phone

First Aid:

Family first aid kit to be taken for each visit. First aid point also inside the Newgate Gap building.

Food and Drink:

Wash hands before eating, sit for eating and drinking, cups and bowls, wet wipes and kitchen roll. *See the FLINTS hand book for a full list of what is needed each session and where items are stored.

Staff safety advice:

Staff to discuss any worries before entering the site before each session and decide if it is safe to hold the group. Consider weather, environment, state of site etc.

Serious Accident:

Seek additional adult help, provide first aid, call ambulance 999, inform (next of kin).

Write up an accident report form, inform HSE,

Assess risk assessment and make new adjustments for the future.

Emergency of the person with food poisoning is experiencing severe symptoms, such as trouble breathing, dizziness or fainting, or vomiting blood. Call 999 and have the relevant information ready to give the operator. (See below)

1. Helen's telephone number: 07896196076

Location

2. Exact location: Newgate Gap beach or building, Entrance via the Newgate Gap causeway foreshore gate on the corner of Percy Road and Selwyn Road. Newgate Gap, CT9 2DS.

After opening the foreshore gate (we will try and open if possible for the ambulance, the ambulance should have a key) The Newgate Gap building is on the right after the tunnel as you go down the Newgate Gap causeway. The Newgate Gap causeway is approximately 100m long. The site on the beach extends approximately 100m along the beach at the bottom of the Newgate Gap and up to the tide line. Vehicular access may not be possible.

3. Your name. Helen Smith

4. A brief and precise description of the problem ie If requesting an ambulance you will need to give name and casualties symptoms / injury and treatment given.

5. Inform the emergency services if the ambulance can be met

Food poisoning:

nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramping, and diarrhea

Minor Accident:

Provide first aid, complete accident report form, assess risk assessment and make adjustments for future.

Weather change:

Make dynamic risk assessment, seek shelter or return to Newgate Gap building.

Relevant personnel should be informed of incident immediately and arrangements should be made to transport the casualty to the hospital.

Casualties Consent Form with medical health records should be taken with them.

Next of kin should be contacted. (N/R)



Risk Assessment 2023

Activity	Hazard identified/ Risk	Risk assessment	Elimination/ Existing control measures	Who?	Treatment
Water play, Children are close to water	Drowning	Low	The facilitators have spoken to the children and their carers about what to do when at the beach, supervision of child/ren is the responsibility of the caregivers, strictly setting the rules that no one is allowed to swim or wade in the water.	Children, Caregivers, Staff	An adult will always be present when children are close to any water, Suitable activities will be decided by staff members.
Walking to activity site	Child hit by car	Low	The foreshore gate is locked at all times restricting cars to drive down the gap. Occasionally the Thanet District Council waste removal truck accesses the bins at the seafront by driving down the Newgate Gap. They drive very slowly as they are used to operating daily in heavily pedestrianized areas.	Children, Caregivers, Staff	All children will be accompanied by their caregivers when moving between the Newgate Gap building and the beach.

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Nature play	(Risk 1) Bruises, scratches, minor cuts, nose bleeds, bumps	Moderate	Education and discussions with children about safe play practices (appropriate/inappropriate ways to use a stick, sand, stones and other found nature objects) Constant adult supervision and intervention where required to remind children of the safety rules.	Children, Caregivers, Staff	First aid procedures Call parent guardian Call ambulance in case of severe injury
Nature play	(Risk 2) Broken bones, sprains, cuts requiring stitches, other injuries requiring medical attention	Moderate	Stocked First Aid Kit and operational mobile phone carried at all times. All staff trained to their required qualification level of First Aid. Pre-activity assessment, staff will consider children's skills and experience and ensure that the activity is suitable for the group.	Children, Caregivers, Staff	First aid procedures Call ambulance Request additional assistance remove children Call parent/ guardian complete incident report Organise de-brief and support for family,
Nature play	(Risk 3) Putting item of nature in their mouths, risk of choking, or becoming unwell	Moderate	All staff trained to their required qualification level of First Aid. Education and discussions with children about safe play practices (appropriate/inappropriate ways to use a stick, sand, stones and other found nature objects) Constant adult supervision and intervention where required to		First aid procedures Call ambulance Request additional assistance remove children

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			remind children of the safety rules.		
Dog off lead	Dog bite, dog knocking child over, children who are afraid of dogs	Moderate	Staff will teach children to stand still, with their arms by their side if approached by a dog. This will be practiced as a drill on goingly. Adults will be aware of dogs in the area and stay on guard between the children and dogs. A sign will be on display for dog walkers and the general community to say who we are and what we are doing.	Children, Caregivers, Staff	First aid procedures Remove children Call parent/ guardian In case of serious incident notify police Complete incident report Children who are frightened can be taken into Newgate Gap building to recover
Dog faeces	Child stepping in or handling dog faeces.	Moderate	Children will be taught to watch out for dog faeces and not to touch it.	Children	If dog owner present will ask to clean up the faeces or report it if they refuse to Thanet District Council: https://forms.thanet.gov.uk/forms/form/61/en/dog_related_report Failing above, staff will have 'poo bags' and remove any dog faeces. Facilities to clean up are available at the Newgate Gap building

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Needle stick injuries	Risk of HIV or blood borne diseases	Low	Staff to walk around the beach site to look for any needles. Children to be taught never to pick up any needle if seen. Any syringes are removed using tongs and placed securely in a sharps container. If unable to retrieve, contact Thanet District Council.	Children, Caregivers, Staff	Any syringes are removed using tongs and placed securely in a sharps container. If unable to retrieve, contact Thanet District Council.
Toxic materials on beach	Child injured by handling toxic material	Low	Staff check www.sas.org.uk for warnings of sewage spills before the group begins and physically check beach area for hazardous materials before children arrive	Children, Caregivers, Staff	Take child to wash in the Newgate Gap building. Cordon off the site of the waste and contact council
Insect bites		Low	Stocked First Aid Kit and operational mobile phone carried at all times, including Epi-pen. Participants are responsible for making staff aware of any insect allergies at sign in.	Children, Caregivers, Staff	First Aid procedures Call parent/ guardian Call Ambulance if severe reaction

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Stranger	Stranger interference	Low	Adults with the group will be alert to the possibility of strangers approaching the group and will be trained in how to have appropriate interactions with other users of the beach and to limit contact with other parties that could disrupt the programme.	Children, Caregivers, Staff	Call police if stranger does not leave when asked Access to Newgate Gap Building
Child getting lost/ separated from group	Child getting lost	Low	Constant caregiver and supervisor supervision. Regular headcount Teaching children what to do if they get separated - stay in one place and call out.	Children	First Aid procedures Call Police Co-operate with Emergency Services Remove Children Call parent/ guardian Complete incident report Organise de-brief and support for family, staff and children as necessary
Jellyfish sting	Child stung by jellyfish	Low	Children will not enter the water unsupervised and staff will check for presence of jellyfish washed up on the beach in advance of session	Children	First aid procedures Call parent guardian Call ambulance in case of severe reaction

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Rock fall from chalk cliff	Children hurt from falling lumps of chalk from the cliff above the Newgate Gap causeway and surrounding area.	Low	<p>Staff will check weather conditions for high winds and freezing temperatures that increase chances of cliff fall. Staff will alert participants of these conditions before the group begins.</p> <p>Children and caregivers will be briefed on the rules of not walking close to the bottoms of the cliffs or playing on top of the concrete cliff erosion defenses at the beach level.</p>	Children, Caregivers, Staff	<p>First aid procedures</p> <p>Call parent guardian</p> <p>Call ambulance in case of severe injury</p>
Exposure to sun, wind, low temperatures and rain	Children, caregivers and staff suffer the effects of sunburn, overheating, wind burn and cold and wetness.	Moderate	<p>Staff and participants briefed and provided with safety suggestions for weather exposure for appropriate clothing and suncream cover. Spare clothes also will be recommended.</p> <p>Each participant made aware that they are personally responsible for the wellbeing of themselves and children attending.</p> <p>Advise having personal water bottles for children attending.</p> <p>Staff to have spare clothes, sunhats and chemical free children's suncream (at caregivers own risk).</p>	Children, Caregivers, Staff	<p>First aid procedures where necessary</p> <p>Dry off / warm up / change clothes in Newgate Gap building</p> <p>Child / participant to return home</p>

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Allergy to unknown or know food contact	Children, caregivers and staff suffer the effects of food allergy from contaminated foods or snacks brought to the group	Moderate	<p>Caregivers will be briefed on strictly no nut products allowed if they bring snack items for their children. Participant's personal snack items will be encouraged to be eaten after the group concludes to avoid accidental contamination.</p> <p>Participants are responsible for making staff aware of any food allergies at sign in.</p> <p>Stocked First Aid Kit and operational mobile phone carried at all times, including Epi-pen.</p> <p>All participants will be required to complete an allergy section when registering for the group.</p> <p>A 'no nut' snack will be provided of bread, butter (dairy and non dairy options), apples and raisins.</p> <p>Staff will complete Food Hygiene and handling training.</p>	Children, Caregivers, Staff	<p>First Aid procedures Call parent/guardian</p> <p>Call Ambulance if severe reaction</p>

Activity	Hazard identified/ Risk	Risk assessment	Elimination/ Existing control measures	Who?	Treatment
Injury from sharp glass or debris hidden in sand.	Children, caregivers and staff injure themselves by coming into contact with sharp objects such as glass hidden in the sand	High	<p>Participants briefed about hidden hazards in the sand and to exercise caution.</p> <p>Staff, with the help of caregivers, do a brief beach clean before the group begins.</p> <p>Responsibility of the caregivers to supervise child/ren sand play. To also alert the staff if sharp hazards are found, and if possible, it can be removed and disposed of safely in bins on the sea front at the Newgate Gap.</p>	Children, Caregivers, Staff	<p>First aid procedures</p> <p>Call parent guardian</p> <p>Call ambulance in case of severe reaction</p>