



Bridging Futures

Empowering every child through inclusion, opportunity and support

Risk Assessment Policy

Version: September 2026

Review Date: September 2027

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Statement of Intent

Bridging Futures is committed to providing a safe, supportive and well-managed environment for all students, staff, volunteers and visitors.

Risk assessment is an important part of our daily practice. As a small therapeutic alternative provision, we recognise that each young person has individual needs and that activities may require flexibility. Our aim is to identify potential risks, reduce them where reasonably practicable and ensure that learning and therapeutic opportunities can take place safely.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that risks are identified, assessed and managed appropriately to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of everyone involved with Bridging Futures.

Risk assessments are intended to support participation, not prevent it. Wherever possible, risks will be managed so that students can access learning and enrichment opportunities safely.

Responsibilities

The Education Director is responsible for ensuring that suitable risk assessments are completed, reviewed regularly and communicated to relevant staff.

All staff are responsible for considering risks as part of their everyday practice, following agreed control measures and reporting any new or changing risks promptly.

Types of Risk Assessment

Bridging Futures may complete risk assessments for:

- individual students where additional support or safety measures are required;
- educational visits, community activities and outreach work;
- the learning environment and equipment; and
- specific activities where there is an increased level of risk.

Where appropriate, risk assessments will be developed in partnership with families, commissioning schools and other professionals.

Dynamic Risk Assessment

Due to the nature of our provision, staff are expected to continually assess situations as they develop.

If circumstances change during an activity, staff will use their professional judgement to adapt plans, reduce risks and ensure the safety of students and others. Where necessary, activities may be modified or stopped if they can no longer be carried out safely.

Recording and Reviewing Risks

Risk assessments will be reviewed:

- annually;
- before educational visits or new activities;
- following an accident or significant incident; or
- whenever circumstances change.

Significant risks and control measures will be shared with relevant staff to ensure a consistent approach.

Individual Risk Assessments

Some students may require an individual risk assessment due to medical needs, behaviour, emotional wellbeing or other identified vulnerabilities.

These assessments will focus on supporting the young person to participate safely while promoting independence and positive outcomes. They will be reviewed regularly and updated as needs change.

Related Policies

This policy should be read alongside the:

- Health and Safety Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Behaviour and Relationships Policy
- First Aid Policy

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if legislation, guidance or operational practice changes.

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