



Operational noise management plan Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery Northenden (January 2022)

Guide to managing operational practices in external play areas

Introduction

We aim to provide an essential childcare service to communities through high quality educational environments located conveniently close to areas of residential housing. In doing so we consider the impact on our neighbouring properties and individuals through considerate design and management of our operational activity.

Assessment

An Activity Noise Assessment has been carried out by ACA Acoustics Ltd and they concluded that:

- *'The assessment shows that predicted typical noise levels from activities in the external play area are comfortably below prevailing ambient noise levels and below the level at which a significant adverse effect on the residents of the nearest houses would be expected, particularly as the nursery will not operate early in the morning or late into the evening.'*

There will be ongoing review undertaken onsite by the nursery management team as part of their daily management duties.

Responsibility

The Nursery Manager will have responsibility for ensuring that noise from operational activity is conducted below an adverse effect level from both the external play area and the within the nursery building.

Operational Hours

The nursery will typically operate from 7:30am to 6:30pm on Monday to Friday through 51 weeks of the calendar year.

The external play area will be in use for a small number of the opening hours each day, typically in two spells each day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

The external play area will not host the nursery's full capacity of 60 children at any one time, with peak utilisation for the external play area being 22 children. We will plan and schedule each age group's utilisation of the external play area on a daily basis to ensure we do not exceed 22 children at any one time.

Figure 1 - Example use of external play area for Monkey Puzzle Northenden

Total capacity	60
Under 2s	18
2-3s	18
Over 3s	24

Time	No of children outside	No of staff
07.30am	0	0
08.00am	0	0
08.30am	0	0
09.00am	15	4
09.30am	13	3
10.00am	6	2
10.30am	15	4
11.00am	15	4
11.30am	0	0
12.00pm	0	0
12.30pm	15	4
01.00pm	0	0
01.30pm	0	0
02.00pm	0	0
02.30pm	15	4
03.00pm	22	5
03.30pm	22	5
04.00pm	0	0
04.30pm	6	2
05.00pm	15	4
05.30pm	0	0
06.00pm	0	0
06.30pm	0	0

Mitigation measures

Focus	Area of consideration	Recommendations
Parents	Ingress/Egress	Induction pack for children and parents will feature guidance and considerations for accessing the nursery considerately Routine communications will periodically feature guidance on conduct for parents accessing the nursery premises
Workforce	Ingress/Egress	Regular communications will feature guidance on conduct for staff accessing the nursery premises Staff induction process will include site specific noise mitigation measures and review of the operational noise management plan
	Work duties	Staff induction process will include site specific noise mitigation measures and this operational noise management plan
Children	At play	Children will be supervised by trained staff at all times in compliance with our regulatory requirements Children will be guided to practise behaviour self-regulation as modelled by the staff All play activity in garden will be monitored by staff for its appropriateness and noise impact against the developmental benefit for the children No amplified music to be played in external play area
Physical Environment	Construction and Configuration	Acoustic fencing to be installed to the eastern boundary of the external play area Consideration given to the layout of activity areas and equipment within the external play area to minimise impact on neighbouring properties
Temporary Variation	Management and Communication	Any variation to normal operation that adversely effects noise levels will be assessed for impact and communicated to neighbouring properties at the earliest opportunity

Complaints

If a noise complaint is received nursery management will investigate the issue and communicate their findings and outcome with the complainant within 48 hours. A Noise Complaint Reporting Form will be completed for each complaint (See below for example).

Noise complaints will be periodically monitored by Monkey Puzzle Day Nurseries for their frequency and nature, with appropriate mitigation measures taken as appropriate.

Noise Complaint Reporting Form		
Nursery:	Date:	Time:
Name and address of complainant		
Tel No		
Date, time and duration of noise issue		
Complainant's description of noise		
Has complainant any other comments about the offending noise?		
Any other previous known complaints relating to nursery (all aspects, not just noise)		
Other relevant information		
Potential source of issues		
Operating conditions at time of issue		

Action taken		
Completed by:	Signed:	