



Home and Boundaries Risk Assessment

Whole-home environmental, perimeter and community-boundary assessment for children's homes

Home / organisation	[Enter name]
Document owner	[Enter role/name]
Version	1.0
Effective date	[DD/MM/YYYY]
Review date	[DD/MM/YYYY]
Approved by	[Name and role]

IMPORTANT

This template must be completed using the home's actual environment, people, products and working arrangements. It supports professional judgement; it does not replace competent advice, manufacturers' safety data sheets, statutory duties or emergency procedures.

1. Purpose and principles

This assessment supports a child-centred evaluation of risks arising from the home, its physical boundaries, immediate neighbourhood and access arrangements. Controls should keep children and others safe while remaining proportionate, least restrictive and consistent with each child's plans and rights.

- Walk the site in daylight and darkness and after significant weather or building changes.
- Consult children, staff, neighbours or professionals where relevant and appropriate.
- Consider ordinary use, foreseeable misuse, visitors, deliveries, contractors and emergency access.
- Cross-reference individual risk assessments, placement plans, missing-from-home plans, fire risk assessment and location assessment.
- Do not use blanket restrictions where an individualised, less restrictive measure can manage the risk.

2. Assessment details

Full address	[Enter address]
Assessment date/time	[Include daylight/darkness conditions]
Assessor(s)	[Name, role and competence]
Children consulted	[Initials/roles only; record views below]
Related documents	[Location assessment / fire RA / individual plans]
Weather / seasonal factors	[Conditions relevant to inspection]

Risk-rating method

Score likelihood (1–5) and severity (1–5), then multiply. Record the score before controls and the residual score after controls. Escalate in line with your organisation's policy.

Score	Band	Expected response
1–4	Low	Maintain controls and review routinely.
5–9	Moderate	Add proportionate controls and monitor.
10–16	High	Prompt management action; restrict activity where necessary.
17–25	Critical	Stop or prevent exposure/activity until effective controls are in place.

Likelihood: 1 Rare • 2 Unlikely • 3 Possible • 4 Likely • 5 Almost certain

Severity: 1 Insignificant • 2 Minor • 3 Moderate • 4 Major • 5 Catastrophic

8. Inspection and review record

Date / time	Inspection type or trigger	Key findings / changes	Actions raised / closed	Reviewer

Review triggers

- Admission, discharge or significant change in a child's needs or risks.
- Missing-from-home episode, intrusion, accident, near miss, complaint or safeguarding concern.
- Building work, damage, new equipment, boundary alteration or change of access system.
- Significant local incident or change identified through the location assessment.
- Seasonal change, severe weather or evidence that controls are not working.

Reference sources

- The Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015 — <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2015/541/contents>
- Guide to the Children's Homes Regulations, including the Quality Standards — <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-homes-regulations-including-quality-standards-guide>
- Health and Safety Executive: Managing risks and risk assessment at work — <https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/>
- Department for Education: Statutory guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care — <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-who-run-away-or-go-missing-from-home-or-care>