



Every Child a
Confident Learner

Helping children to manage risk

What is a risk?

To some people, risk can mean danger. A risk can be positive. For example, a baby would never learn to walk if they did not take the risk of taking a tumble. Risk means trying something new, being adventurous and gaining new experiences. Risks are not always physical. Children take social risks when they try to join in with other children who are already playing a game. Children



Adventurous play

Some children enjoy play that involves both joy and fear. They move quickly, they go head first down a slide, they roll, they spin and they hang upside down! This helps the children to extend their boundaries, explore further, set challenges and be resilient. Children will initiate activities, seek

How can we help children to manage their own risks?

We need to create an environment at school and at home where children are safe enough to seek out challenges and take risks. Children will



Children will need toys that give a sensation of instability, such as rockers,



Children will need to use toys that allow for swinging, balancing, sliding, rolling, crawling and



Uneven ground and varied surfaces outdoors, such as mounds, hillocks and slopes, give children the op-

Children should use real tools, such as whisks, hammers, scissors, cutlery, cooking utensils, gardening tools and sewing tools



with well-



Adults should talk to children about how to keep themselves safe and