

RISK ASSESSMENT – WOODLAND SKILLS (TOOLS AND FIRE)



Group ratios: 1 instructor per group plus – 1 supervising adult to 4 Brownies
or 1 supervising adult to 6 Guides or Rangers

Supervising adults should not participate in the activity.

An adult with the group should be responsible for First Aid.

The Emergency Muster Point is by the Car Park.

**Please report all Accidents or Near Misses in an Accident Book, which are located in the Solid Shelter or in phone cupboard in Foyer of House.
A First-Aid kit can also be found in the Solid Shelter.**

Hazard	Who/ what might be harmed	Control measures	Person(s) responsible for control measures
Unfavourable weather	Instructor and Participant	Move inside (Solid shelter), reschedule or cancel a session if you believe the weather to be unsafe, i.e. lightning, high wind or heavy rain	Instructor (in consultation with Group Leader)
Burns to hair, or from clothing catching fire	Participant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants with long hair to have it tied back Any loose clothing must be secured 	Instructor and Supervising Adults
Injury to foot		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants to wear closed-toed shoes – no sandals 	
Slips, trips, falls and rabbit holes	Instructor and Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generic safety briefing given at start of session Bushcraft activity areas inspected on a regular basis and in particular prior to the first session of the day Regular maintenance work, particularly in the main activity area, to control stinging/prickly vegetation and to reduce the risk from falling deadwood and low branches Regular inspections for wildlife and pest activity followed up with the appropriate signage or treatment by suitably qualified personnel 	Instructors Estate Manager and Contractors
Low hanging branches			
Falling branches			
Nettles and brambles			
Disturbing bee or wasp nests			
Carrying and lifting of cordwood and work blocks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate instruction given in safe lifting and carrying techniques Close supervision by instructors and supervising adults 	Instructor and Supervising Adults

Hazard	Who/ what might be harmed	Control measures	Person(s) responsible for control measures
Cuts or stab wounds resulting from knife and/or saw use	Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All instructors will be appropriately trained and can demonstrate suitable levels of skillParticipants will receive appropriate instructionMaintain designated supervision ratiosMaintain suitable safe working distance from other participants (3-5m)Always adopt a safe stance and use appropriate knife/saw holdsNever use knives while standingAll tools to be kept sharp and in good working orderWhen not in use return all tools to their protective sheaths/covers/boxesWhen not in use folding saws must be closedAt the end of each session all tools must be accounted for and placed in the tool box which then locked in a cupboard	Instructor and Supervising Adults
Cuts from flints when used with fire steels		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Verbal warnings and appropriate instructionClose supervision	
Ignition of wire wool when used with batteries		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Be vigilant that batteries and wire wool are kept well apart when not in immediate use	
Burns and scalds from hot water	Anyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Verbal warnings and appropriate instructionClose supervisionAwareness of weather conditions, in particular wind directionArea around fire to be kept clear of trip hazardsMaintain suitable safe working distances between fires when working in small groupsNo crowding around the fireOnly 1 participant may work on the fire at a time (feeding/blowing)No waving lit/hot/glowing sticks aroundInspection of any cooking structures before useProvide gloves for use with hot Billy cansBuckets of water must be available at all fire bases for firefighting, first aid of burns and to douse the fire at the end of the sessionEnsure hand sanitizer is used by everyone before handling any food	
Smoke inhalation			
Air-borne hot ash and embers			
Hygiene			
Jarman Centre benching melting and catching fire			