



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 The Senior Section
 Supervising adults will not participate in the activity. An adult with the group should be responsible for First Aid.
 Emergency/attention signal - 3 whistle blasts. The Emergency Muster Point is by the Car Park.

**Please report all Accidents or Near Misses in the Accident Book, which is located in the Solid Shelter.
 First-Aid kits can be found in the Woodland Skills Accessory box and in the Solid Shelter.**

Hazard	Who might be harmed	Control measures	Person(s) responsible for control measures
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		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 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	

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 skill • Participants will receive appropriate instruction • Maintain designated supervision ratios • Maintain suitable safe working distance from other participants (3-5m) • Always adopt a safe stance and use appropriate knife/saw holds • All tools to be kept sharp and in good working order • Participants must attach the knife sheath to their belt/trousers immediately upon receiving it • When not in use return all tools to their protective sheath/cover/box • No walking around with an unsheathed knife or open saw • When not in use folding saws must be closed • At the end of each session all tools must be accounted for and placed in the tool box, which will then be locked 	Instructor and Supervising Adults
Cuts from flints when used with fire steel		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal warnings and appropriate instruction • Close supervision • Provision of gloves if required 	
Burns and scalds	Anyone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety briefing and appropriate instruction • Close supervision • Awareness of weather conditions, in particular wind direction • Area around fire to be kept clear of trip hazards • Maintain suitable safe working distances between fires when working in small groups • No crowding around the fire • Only 1 participant may work on the fire at a time (feeding/blowing) 	
Smoke inhalation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No waving lit/hot/glowing sticks around • Inspection of any cooking structures before use • Gloves to be used with hot Billy cans • Buckets of water must be available for firefighting, first aid of burns and to douse fire at end of the session 	
Air borne hot ash and embers			