

Risk assessment

Name of Section or Activity	Campfire	Date of risk assessment	12 th January 2021	Name of who undertook this risk assessment	Tris Cocks
		Date of next review	September 2025		

Hazard Identified? / Risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
Hazard – something that may cause harm or damage. Risk – the chance of it happening.	Young people, Leaders, Visitors?	Controls – Ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it. For example - you might use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way the activity is carried out.	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change it...or even stop it! This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
Slips, Trips & Falls - Injury	All	- Area to be checked for trip hazards prior to commencing activity - Any fixed hazards that cannot be moved shall identified and all participants prior to the activity commencing - All Persons shall be warned about hazardous areas around the campfire - No running around the campfire	
Burns – Injury	All	- Fire buckets to be within easy reach of the campfire - Participants to be briefed on the dangers of the campfire and the following rules explained ; - No picking up burning wood - No throwing objects into the fire - No loose clothing around the fire (Including Scarfs) - Participants to behave sensibly around the fire - Flammable Liquids to be stored in a sealed container and kept well away from fire and naked flames. - Leaders shall only use small portions of flammable liquids for priming a fire where required. Meths or Paraffin only; No explosive liquids such as Petrol.	
Pollutants / toxic smoke - Illness	All	- Only 'Natural' wood to be used on the campfire, i.e. not chemically treated (Tanalised) or painted wood. - Leaders to check condition of wood from wood piles for suitability prior to use. - Do not allow the burning of Live trees or Plastics	

Additional information can be found in the [Safety Checklist for Leaders](https://scouts.org.uk/safety) and other information at scouts.org.uk/safety

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Uncontrolled Fire – Burns, damage to equipment and Injury	All	• Campfire to be kept away from, and downwind of any Tents and Flammable materials • The area around the campfire shall be cleared of combustible material. • Do not light a campfire on Peat areas and under trees • Fires shall be kept maintained within a ring of suitable stones or large logs • Spectators to be kept a suitable distance away from the fire • There is to be a clear escape route away from the fire • Fire buckets to be within easy reach of the fire. • Fire to be extinguished when no longer required,	
Collecting Wood - Injury	All	• Brief to include staying within a designated area and running, • Brief to include not moving big heavy objects (consider using a benchmark such as no thicker than your wrist) and not to carry too much at one time. • Participants to be reminded about the possibility of Splinters and to avoid any wood that looks like a potential hazard.	
Enthusiastic actions during songs and sketches – Burns, Slips	All	• Participants taking part in sketches and song are to be briefed to stay away from the campfire. • No running around the campfire	
Sparks, Ash & Embers– Burns	All	• All Wood to be lowered into the campfire, not dropped. • Spectators advised to the stay clear of the downwind direction of the fire • Fire buckets to be within easy reach of the fire.	
Weather – Hypothermia,	All	• Weather to be checked prior to commencing the campfire; were possible to be modified to suit weather conditions i.e. change the time, reduce the time. • Campfire not to take place in high winds or droughts. • Correct Clothing for weather to be checked prior to commencing activity i.e. Waterproofs, Coat, Hat etc.	
Behaviour	All	• Behavioural expectations of all persons involved in the activity to be briefed before the activity commences.	

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Supervision	All	Supervision of YP to be within minimum ratios as specified in POR.	
First Aid	All	At least one leader to hold a current first aid qualification and to have easy access to a first aid kit suitable for the Activity.	

Checked by Line Manager	Paul Woodward Assistant GSL 18 th January 2021	Checked by Executive	Lesley Dingle Group Chair 23 rd March 2021
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Version Control

Date	Version	Changed by	Comments
12 th January 2021	1	Tris Cocks	Initial Version
28 August 2023	1.1	Paul Woodward	Reviewed
10 th November	1.2	Paul Woodward	Reviewed