

## Risk assessment

Name of Section or Activity	Campfire	Date of risk assessment	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Name of who undertook this risk assessment	Tris Cocks
		Date of next review	September 2026		

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?
<i>Hazard</i> – something that may cause harm or damage. <i>Risk</i> – the chance of it happening.	Young people, Leaders, Visitors?	<b>Controls</b> – 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 <b>checking</b> throughout the activity in case you need to change it...or even <b>stop</b> it! This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
Slips, Trips & Falls - Injury	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Area to be checked for trip hazards prior to commencing activity</li> <li>Any fixed hazards that cannot be moved shall identified and all participants prior to the activity commencing</li> <li>All Persons shall be warned about hazardous areas around the campfire</li> <li>No running around the campfire</li> </ul>	
Burns – Injury	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire buckets to be within easy reach of the campfire</li> <li>Participants to be briefed on the dangers of the campfire and the following rules explained ;                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No picking up burning wood</li> <li>No throwing objects into the fire</li> <li>No loose clothing around the fire (Including Scarfs)</li> <li>Participants to behave sensibly around the fire</li> </ul> </li> <li>Flammable Liquids to be stored in a sealed container and kept well away from fire and naked flames.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	
Pollutants / toxic smoke - Illness	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only 'Natural' wood to be used on the campfire, i.e. not chemically treated (Tanalised) or painted wood.</li> <li>Leaders to check condition of wood from wood piles for suitability prior to use.</li> <li>Do not allow the burning of Live trees or Plastics</li> </ul>	

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

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Uncontrolled Fire – Burns, damage to equipment and Injury	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campfire to be kept away from, and downwind of any Tents and Flammable materials</li> <li>• The area around the campfire shall be cleared of combustible material.</li> <li>• Do not light a campfire on Peat areas and under trees</li> <li>• Fires shall be kept maintained within a ring of suitable stones or large logs</li> <li>• Spectators to be kept a suitable distance away from the fire</li> <li>• There is to be a clear escape route away from the fire</li> <li>• Fire buckets to be within easy reach of the fire.</li> <li>• Fire to be extinguished when no longer required,</li> </ul>	
Collecting Wood - Injury	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief to include staying within a designated area and running,</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Participants to be reminded about the possibility of Splinters and to avoid any wood that looks like a potential hazard.</li> </ul>	
Enthusiastic actions during songs and sketches – Burns, Slips	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants taking part in sketches and song are to be briefed to stay away from the campfire.</li> <li>• No running around the campfire</li> </ul>	
Sparks, Ash & Embers– Burns	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All Wood to be lowered into the campfire, not dropped.</li> <li>• Spectators advised to the stay clear of the downwind direction of the fire</li> <li>• Fire buckets to be within easy reach of the fire.</li> </ul>	
Weather – Hypothermia,	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Campfire not to take place in high winds or droughts.</li> <li>• Correct Clothing for weather to be checked prior to commencing activity i.e. Waterproofs, Coat, Hat etc.</li> </ul>	
Behaviour	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioural expectations of all persons involved in the activity to be briefed before the activity commences.</li> </ul>	

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Supervision	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supervision of YP to be within minimum ratios as specified in POR.</li> </ul>	
First Aid	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>	

<b>Checked by Line Manager</b>	Paul Woodward Assistant GSL 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	<b>Checked by Executive</b>	Lesley Dingle Group Chair 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2021
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### Version Control

Date	Version	Changed by	Comments
12 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	1	Tris Cocks	Initial Version
28 August 2023	1.1	Paul Woodward	Reviewed
10 <sup>th</sup> November	1.2	Paul Woodward	Reviewed
17 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	1.3	Paul Woodward	Reviewed