

Risk assessment

Name of Section or Activity	Fire Lighting	Date of risk assessment	26 th November 2020	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 – something that may cause harm or damage. Risk – the chance of it happening.</i>	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	
Activity Equipment - Injury	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Equipment shall be checked for damage. Any defects are to be reported to the QM Equipment is to be set up by competent persons. 	
Unauthorised access - Safeguarding	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access points to activity equipment must be secured against casual or unauthorised access when the activity is taking place. 	
Burns – Injury	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designated area to be used for Fire lighting Fire buckets to be within easy reach of the fire Matches to be stored in a sealed dry container and issued in small numbers to responsible participants. Training to be given to all participants on how to correctly use Matches and Lighters Participants to be briefed on the dangers of fire lighting and the following rules explained ; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Wood to be lowered onto the fire by holding one end with fingers near to the ground. 	

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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Burns – Injury (Continued)	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only 'Natural' wood to be used for cooking purposes, 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 	
Uncontrolled Fire – Burns, damage to equipment and Injury	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fires to be kept away from, and downwind of any Tents and Flammable materials If lighting a fire on the ground, the area around the fire shall be cleared of combustible material. Do not light a fire on Peat areas and under trees Fires shall be kept maintained within an alter fire, or a ring of suitable stones Fires shall be as small as possible whilst still being suitable to meet requirements 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief to include staying within a designated area, not 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. 	
Weather – Sunstroke, Hypothermia, Sunburn,	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather to be checked prior to commencing activity; Activity to be modified to suit weather conditions. Correct Clothing for weather to be checked prior to commencing activity i.e. Waterproofs, Sun hat, Coat, Hat etc. Sun Cream to be worn and carried when required. 	

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Behaviour	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behavioural expectations of all persons involved in the activity to be briefed before the activity commences. 	
Supervision	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervision of YP to be within minimum ratios as specified in POR. 	
First Aid	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 9 th December 2020	Checked by Executive	Lesley Dingle Group Chair 9 th December 2020
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Version Control

Date	Version	Changed by	Comments
26 th November 2020	1	Tris Cocks	Initial Version
28 th August 2023	1.1	Paul Woodward	Reviewed
10 th November 2024	1.2	Paul Woodward	Reviewed
17 th February 2026	1.3	Paul Woodward	Reviewed