

Risk & Operational Assessment Activities / **Campfire & fire lighting**

Assessed by:	Name	Date 2025	Date 2026	Date 2027	Date 2028	Date 2029
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Overview /

Campfires and fire lighting sessions take place on the specially prepared site. Fires are kept small with the largest fires contained within a fire pit to remain easily manageable yet still fun. Ratios 2:20 minimum and 4:100 Maximum for campfire; 1:12 +1 responsibly adult for fire lighting.

To be used in conjunction with Special Educational Needs, Disability and Medical conditions risk assessment.

STEP ONE	STEP TWO	STEP THREE	STEP FOUR	STEP FIVE
List significant hazards here:	List groups of people who are at risk from the hazards you have identified:	List the Control Measures for the identified risks:	Identify any residual risk remaining after the control measures have been put in place:	Identify any benefits that may result from exposure to the perceived and residual risk for participants:
Uncontrolled fire	Instructors Guests	Bucket of water always available on session to reduce size or extinguish fires Monitor wind speed & direction throughout session, adjusting size of fire or windbreak/ position of group as necessary Ensure all fires are cold before being left Instructor to supervise amount & type of materials being added to fires Long hair tied back, coats zipped up and any dangling elements (hoodie cords etc) tucked in Participants briefed on 'respect position' for fire lighting/ building and reinforced throughout session to allow quick and easy escape. Fire steels counted out at start of session and counted back in to box at end of session	Strong wind or unpredictable gust blowing the fire in different directions.	Being allowed within certain proximity of a fire can heighten awareness and senses, as society associates fire as dangerous.

		Fires only to be lit within fire circle areas where risk of catching dried grass/ organic material is minimised		
Burns	Instructors Guests	Participants briefed on how to manage resources in fire appropriately Gloves and/or tools/handles to be used for cooking and handling hot pots Participants not to carry lit resources Wood & resources managed carefully to reduce risk of projectiles	Lack of awareness or panicking and reflex reactions can result in burns	Participants learn how to manage fire safely and gain confidence in doing so correctly
Smoke inhalation	Instructors Guests Including other activities	Participants briefed to position themselves upwind of fire when possible. Wind direction to be considered when setting up Fire lighting 2 by tower 3; if smoke will blow towards belayers (and roped activities are on) the lakeside fire pit should be used instead. If wind direction changes during session and becomes a problem, efforts to reduce the time the main fire is lit for and use wood that is as dry as possible should be made	Participants may still inhale some smoke if the wind direction changes	Understanding of fires and what makes fires more smokey, independence to consider how to react to smokey environments
Allergic reaction / dietary needs not being met- (cooking)	Instructors Guests	Popcorn is usually cooked during firelighting which is free from all the main allergens. Instructors to be aware that it is cooked in butter (even if not during that session) in a cast iron pan, which will retain some of the butter, so it is advised that those with a milk allergy do not eat the popcorn. Instructors to check medical information prior to session and check with group before offering food	Unknown/ undisclosed allergies or intolerances	Opportunity for group to learn and understand outdoor cooking.
Slips, trips and falls.	Instructors Guests	Group is always under supervision of Instructors and/or Group Leaders Participants briefed not to run in or near fire circle area	Potential of guests not adhering to the safety brief.	

Manual handling related injury	Instructors Guests	Participants briefed on size and length of items suitable to carry on their own or split between them. Staff trained in manual handling & wheelbarrows available	Guidelines not being followed	
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