



Risk Assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	Cranham Scout Centre Bushcraft	Date of risk assessment	11/11/2025	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Brandon Ely Operations Manager
		Date of next review	11/11/2026		

What could go wrong? What hazards have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	What are you going to do about it? How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed? How will they be communicated to young people and adults and remain inclusive to all needs? Session Leader will...	Review & revise What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
Accidents or first aid incidents requiring first aid	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> have a group-specific risk assessment in place before the session. 	
Accidents or first aid incidents requiring first aid	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be suitably qualified or experienced in teaching bushcraft and has sufficient qualified/experienced helpers to run the session safely and have read the group-specific risk assessment.. be aware of the weather forecast and ensure that participants have been briefed to wear appropriate clothing and footwear. 	
Slips, trips and falls causing injury	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> inspect the location of the session in advance of session give information about the type of terrain to be crossed to the group if it is potentially challenging. instruct participants to bring hiking poles if usually used. instruct participants not to run and to take extra care when carrying equipment or on a slope. 	
Manual handling	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brief participants on safe lifting and carrying at start of the session. 	

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Use of knives could cause cuts	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brief participants at the start of the session on the safe use of knives. ensure that knives are regularly sharpened and cleaned. ensure that only fixed-blade knives are used. ensure that participants are spaced out beyond arms reach. ensure that knives are locked away when not in use. 	
Use of axes and saws could cause cuts /deep wounds	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brief participants at the start of the session on the safe use of axes. have instructed the participants to wear hiking boots. ensure that axes and saws kept sharp. ensure that axe handles are regularly checked for cracks and damage. ensure that bystanders know to stand at a safe distance. ensure participants are spaced out beyond arms reach and never placed in a position where they could hit a foot. ensure axes and saws locked away when not in use. 	
Berries, plants and fungi picked from the wild could cause food poisoning	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> be knowledgeable about poisonous foods collected from the wild. require participants to confirm with the Session Leader if foraged food is edible before consumption. 	
Ticks can sometimes cause Lyme Disease	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that participants and, where relevant, their parents are aware of the signs of, and the precautions to take relating to tick bites. 	
Fire/boiling water causing burns and scalds	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> explain the sources of burns and scalds at the start of the session. ensure that there is water bucket by each fire and use of water is explained before fires are lit. 	

You can find more information in the Safety checklist for Section Volunteers and at scouts.org.uk/safety

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brief the group not to wave around glowing or burning sticks. brief the group to walk around the outside of people sitting around a fire to reduce risk of someone falling into it. 	
Excessive heat or cold causing hyperthermia or hypothermia	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> instruct participants to wear/bring appropriate clothing, headwear and sturdy footwear before the session. instruct participants to bring water bottles/suncream/hat as appropriate. have additional sun cream/water/thermal sheet, as appropriate. 	
Accidents or first aid incidents requiring first aid	Instructors & Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> must have a mobile phone with sufficient network coverage at the session site. have an appropriate first-aid kit, and the emergency contact information for the group. there is a qualified first aider at the session. 	

Review due:-

A risk assessment needs reviewing if circumstances change but also schedule regular reviews to ensure they are current, recommended every 12 months? The review must include a detailed look at each element of the risk assessment in order to establish if any change is required.

Don't forget, as part of your programme planning, you should have contingency activities in reserve just in case you can't do what was planned or you need to stop half way through. Make sure this is shared with those involved, so everyone knows how to respond. You should have risk assessed contingency activities prior to them taking place and communicated key information to those involved as with all activities.