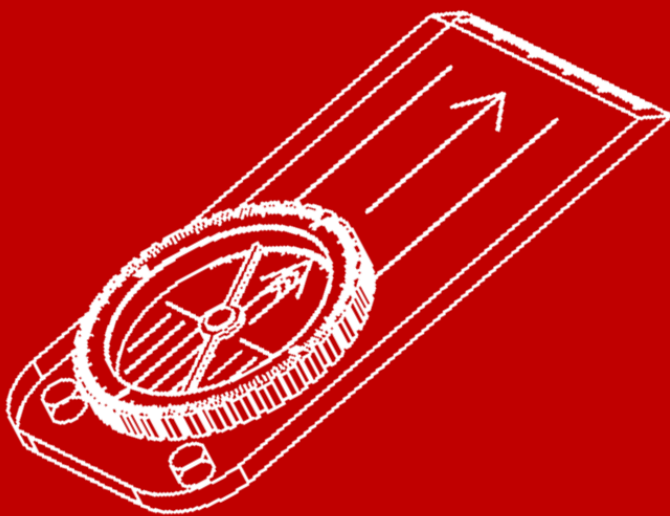


# SCOUT ADVENTURES

## General Site Risk Assessment & Guidance for Visiting Groups.



# Scout Adventures

## General site risk assessment and guidance for visiting groups

This document describes hazards and controls common to all Scout Adventures sites. It has been compiled specifically to provide relevant information to groups visiting our centres. Risk Assessment is a process and not just a document, this document will only be effective if you consider the guidance below:

### Our approach to risk



As the person organising your visit you have a legal duty of care to your group members to ensure that the risks to their health and safety are as low as reasonably practicable. Scout Adventures view is that exposure to risk is an essential part of educating young people. It teaches them how to recognise and manage risks in their everyday lives (a skill for life), and is a tool enabling them to learn and develop. This combination of managed risk, challenge, and learning is at the very heart of adventure.

### Real and Perceived Risk

In general when we are faced with circumstances which are unfamiliar to us we have a tendency to misinterpret the level of risk that is presented – if our perception of the risk is misaligned to the real risk then this has an impact on how we plan and complete the experience. As planners we can suffer from this perception gap in two distinct ways – our over-perception of risk may lead us to prohibit valuable activities which should instead be controlled – for instance fire lighting. Alternatively our under-perception of risk may lead us to ignore real risks which we should take more steps to mitigate against – a tired driver taking everyone home after a camp.

### Your Responsibilities

As the person organising your visit you need to fully consider the risks presented by the entire experience, however you do not need to take additional measures to control risks which we have already controlled unless we specifically ask you to do so – for instance you need to provide appropriate supervision, first aid and manage the behaviour of your group. Of course our team are on hand to help and support you but you remain responsible.

### Wild Lands and Human Hands

Our residential take place in inspiring natural locations, the natural world has inherent risks which cannot and should not be removed. The rocks, trees, and lakes that are present on our sites are a core part of the adventures we offer – they are integral to the experience of the young people who visit. Where a natural hazard and its consequences are obvious to all we deliberately take little action to eliminate or isolate it. For these hazards a combination of instruction and supervision are a reasonable control, and outside of instructed activity sessions it falls to the accompanying adults to provide this control.

Where the hazard is less apparent then we try to adopt the least intrusive method of reducing the risk – conducting regular tree inspections and selectively managing woodland is an example of this approach. If a hazard is presented by a man made object (like a building) or some form of human activity then we overtly control these foreseeable risks where this is appropriate to the activity.

In some situations you should reasonably expect the possibility of minor harm – this is normally not a reason not to complete the activity. For instance small cuts and grazes while shelter building, or capsizing a canoe and falling in the water are both to be expected, and form a valuable part of the adventure. In other situations the exposure to risks is clearly unacceptable and we take actions to control these hazards - slipping on a set of steps because they have been poorly managed is not part of the adventure!

## General Site Risk Assessment – Scout Adventures Centres.

This document describes hazards and controls common to across Scout Adventures centres. This risk assessment excludes adventurous activities and only includes hazards which may affect visiting customers – it does not cover hazards specific to workers. Visiting groups must undertake their own suitable and sufficient risk assessment to control and mitigate hazards from their visit. You should be particularly aware of hazards with a Medium residual risk rating which require you to be aware and alert to how this hazard should be controlled during your visit.

Hazards	Who may be harmed?	Foreseeable Severity	Control Measures in Place	Residual Risk
Pedestrian impact from a vehicle.	Visitors, , Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Vehicle routes are visually obvious in high traffic areas.</li> <li>○ Key meeting areas are closed to vehicles.</li> <li>○ Drivers asked to observe site speed limits and drive with care and awareness of pedestrians.</li> <li>○ Young people should be briefed to be aware of vehicles when moving on tracks/roads.</li> </ul>	Medium
LPG Leak from bulk storage.	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ LPG installations are professionally installed and inspected by the supplier.</li> <li>○ A Major Incident Plan exists to manage fire or similar events on centre.</li> </ul>	Low
Serious first aid incident requiring additional support	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A Duty Manager with First Aid at Work training will always be available on call.</li> <li>○ A maintained Automated External Defibrillator is available on every site and recorded with the emergency services.</li> <li>○ The Major Incident Plan identifies key support to assist medical services – such as marshalling traffic routes.</li> </ul>	Medium
Safeguarding incident on centre	Visitors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All visiting adults responsible for young people on centre are responsible for the wellbeing of their young people.</li> <li>○ All Scout Adventures volunteers and staff have completed Safeguarding training and DBS checks.</li> <li>○ Duty Managers have more detailed Safeguarding Training and are able to liaise with The Scout Associations central safeguarding team for support.</li> </ul>	Medium

Hazards	Who may be harmed?	Foreseeable Severity	Control Measures in Place	Residual Risk
Fallen trees or damage to tree branches/limbs.	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The site is zoned into High, and low risk areas, an arboreal survey is completed on regular basis by a competent person to identify high hazard trees, and a management plan is in place for these areas. Low risk areas are managed as natural woodland.</li> <li>All site users are asked to be vigilant of and report hazards. Groups leading camping should include hazards of site selection in their risk assessment and training to participants.</li> </ul>	Medium
Trespass or unauthorised people on site.	Visitors, Staff	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All buildings are lockable and guests are given keys to secure buildings when not occupied.</li> <li>Critical services, equipment and stored are secured when not in use.</li> <li>External security personnel are used where a higher risk of trespass is evident or perceived.</li> <li>All staff, volunteers and visitors are asked to be vigilant for unauthorised people, and either challenge or report concerns.</li> </ul>	Medium
Electrical fault or damage to electrical systems on site	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All fixed electrical systems are inspected by a competent person on a regular basis in line with the relevant management arrangements.</li> <li>Portable electrical equipment owned and operated by the centre is tested on a regular basis.</li> <li>Staff and volunteers are trained to identify electrical hazards.</li> </ul>	Low
Water contamination (e.g. Legionella) or problem with water systems on site.	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A full L8 risk assessment and management plan is in place for the site which includes flushing, and temperature checks for services.</li> </ul>	Low
Exposure to Asbestos in older structures on site.	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An asbestos management plan is in place for the centre. Any asbestos present is managed in accordance with HSE guidance.</li> </ul>	Low
Building Fire	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Every building has a Fire Risk assessment which details fire hazards and specified means of escape and fire actions.</li> <li>Groups are briefed on the buildings fire plan upon arrival and this information is repeated at fire points within the building.</li> <li>Full programme groups complete a fire drill on arrival.</li> </ul>	Low

Hazards	Who may be harmed?	Foreseeable Severity	Control Measures in Place	Residual Risk
Falls from Height	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any artificial structure providing access to height is secured from unauthorised access.</li> <li>Staff and volunteers are trained in safe working at height and provided with necessary controls and PPE when this is required.</li> <li>Natural features (trees, crags etc) are not managed except where there is an increased risk of unauthorised use, where signage warns of the hazard.</li> </ul>	Low
Drowning in open Water	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manmade water holding structures (tanks, swimming pools) are fenced and secured from unauthorised access.</li> <li>Natural water features (pools, ponds, lakes) are provided with public rescue equipment, and warning signage. All such features have shallow areas where casualty can egress safely.</li> </ul>	Medium
Work equipment and plant	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All work equipment is inspected before use and on a regular basis dependent on its level of risk as determined by PUWER.</li> <li>High risk equipment which presents a high risk of injury if used incorrectly or by untrained users is secured or made inoperable when not in use.</li> </ul>	Low
Injury from unauthorised access to confined spaces	Visitors, Staff	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All confined spaces are secured from unauthorised access.</li> </ul>	Low
Manual handling injury to customers.	Visitors	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers are responsible for the safety of their group while completing self-led activities – including loading or unloading equipment, collecting firewood.</li> <li>Trolleys or other manual handling aids are available from site staff on request.</li> </ul>	Low
Vermin (e.g. Rats) spreading zoonosis	Visitors, Staff	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centre staff are vigilant for signs of vermin in and around buildings.</li> <li>Professional pest contractors are used to control rodents and vermin on site where necessary.</li> </ul>	Low

Hazards	Who may be harmed?	Foreseeable Severity	Control Measures in Place	Residual Risk
Participants are injured during an instructed activity	Participants	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All instructed activities are completed using a safe system of work which includes risk assessments, operating procedures, training, supervision and monitoring.</li> </ul>	Low
Participants are injured during a self-led activity	Participants	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Groups completing self-led activities (including those hired from the centre) are clearly advised that they are responsible for managing the risks of the activity.</li> <li>Hired activity equipment is supplied with good practice instructions, details of emergency support, and where it requires an indication of competency qualifications/permits are verified and an induction is completed with the hirer.</li> </ul>	Medium

### Severity Factor & Remaining Risk Assessment

Level	Severity Description	Residual Risk Description
Low	Minor injury requiring no treatment, or simple first aid.	Control measures have reduced the severity and/or likelihood to minimal levels.
Medium	Injury would require the participant to stop doing the activity; medical treatment is beyond the skills of a basic first aider.	Control measures have reduced severity and/or likelihood to an adequate level but hazard still requires dynamic risk assessment and conscious consideration.
High	Injury would require expert medical attention and/or be fatal.	Control measures haven't reduced severity or likelihood to an acceptable level.

### Document Control

Document managed by: Dan Woodhouse

Approved by: Asa Gurden

Last edit date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Review date: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023