

Shetland Islands Council
Outdoor Education Generic Risk Assessments

Land Activities: Woodland Adventures		Risk to: Instructors/ Group Members
Hazard	Risk	Control measures
I. General	As for walking	As for walking
Shelter Building	<p>Falling objects Branches / Brush Lifting Heavy Objects</p> <p>Being accidentally hit by a piece of timber by another member of the team</p>	<p>Instructors are trained to NGB standards in group management and instructional techniques appropriate to the level of the activity.</p> <p>Instructors choose a suitable venue taking account of the nature of the activity, the ability level of the group, weather conditions and the equipment available.</p> <p>Instructors clearly brief the group , as to the risks involved in the activity. Advise on maximum timber size to collect, use and lift Be aware of the position of other members of the team at all times</p>
Tree climbing + balance logs: Failing from Height	<p>Impact with ground broken bones Cuts + lacerations Soft tissue injuries Head Injuries</p>	<p>Group members instructed not to climb trees when unsupervised.</p> <p>Group members encouraged to set their own safe working limit (e.g. height of the ground), with in the height that the instructor feels is appropriate.</p> <p>Group members are spotted by the instructor at all times Appropriate safe trees are chosen for the activity (strong branches, no dead wood and soft landings)</p>
Roped Activities (slack line, postman walk + zip line). Falling from Height	<p>Impact with ground broken bones Cuts + lacerations Soft tissue injuries Head Injuries</p>	<p>All group members to wear appropriate equipment for the activity. Helmets and Harnesses adjusted, checked and fitted correctly.</p> <p>Group members are given clear instruction as to how to correctly clip on to safety ropes, lock Karabiners, and check one another.</p> <p>Group members shown how to safely un clip , and step of the ropes to the ground.</p> <p>Group members are instructed not to use any of the roped elements , with out the appropriate equipment and supervision.</p> <p>Accompanying members of staff , given clear instructions as to their supervisory role during the activity.</p>

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Becoming separated from the group	Emotional distress.	<p>Group are clearly briefed on entering the woodland area as to the boundaries, of the area and activity.</p> <p>When working in smaller groups, they are given clear instructions as to which area of the woodland they are working in , and that they have to work together, and stay together as a group.</p> <p>If playing the “worlds best game” they are instructed to show themselves and come back to base, if they have not been spotted during the game.</p>
Being Left behind in the woods	Emotional distress and panic	<p>On leaving the venue, a head count will be undertaken by the Instructor to ensure that all members of the group are accounted for.</p>
Fire Lighting	Burns + scalds	<p>If a fire is lit, it is supervised by an adult at all times, the adult positioning themselves as a fire guard, to protect group members from falling into , interfering with or getting bewitched by the lure of the flames.</p> <p>A source of cold water should be close by to treat any burns should they occur.</p>