

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	Falling objects Branches / Brush Lifting Heavy Objects Being accidentally hit by a piece of timber by another member of the team	Instructors are trained to NGB standards in group management and instructional techniques appropriate to the level of the activity. 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. 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
Tree climbing + balance logs: Failing from Height	Impact with ground broken bones Cuts + lacerations Soft tissue injuries Head Injuries	Group members instructed not to climb trees when unsupervised. Group members encouraged to set their own safe working limit (e.g. height of the ground), within the height that the instructor feels is appropriate. 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)
Roped Activities (slack line, postman walk + zip line). Failing from Height	Impact with ground broken bones Cuts + lacerations Soft tissue injuries Head Injuries	All group members to wear appropriate equipment for the activity. Helmets and Harnesses adjusted,checked and fitted correctly. Group members are given clear instruction as to how to correctly clip on to safety ropes, lock Karabiners, and check one another. Group members shown how to safely un clip , and step of the ropes to the ground. Group members are instructed not to use any of the roped elements , with out the appropriate equipment and supervision. Accompanying members of staff , given clear instructions as to their supervisory role during the activity.

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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	On leaving the venue, a head count will be undertaken by the Instructor to ensure that all members of the group are accounted for.
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>