



Risk assessment form (H&S)

Name of assessor(s)	Karl Watson	Group / Establishment:	SSE Outdoors
Date	January 2022		

What is the workplace / activity / equipment / conditions (delete as appropriate) being assessed:	How was the assessment done? e.g. desktop exercise, site visit, in consultation with employees, managers, safety representatives?	Next review date:
		January 2023
Bushcraft activities take place in a woodland near Pardlestone Lane. It can include teaching participants fire lighting, knife skills, cordage or camp craft. (Shelter building can happen in the same area, either as a standalone or as part of a Bushcraft session. See Shelter Building Risk Assessment).	Completed by Senior Instructor	Mobile reception / nearest landline
		Outdoor Centre

Who could be harmed, and how?	What is already being done to control the risks?	*Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood			What further action is recommended to reduce risks further?	Action by whom?	Date action due	Date action done
		S	L	S x L				
All participants – slips, trips & falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety briefing for all participants Constant monitoring throughout the session Potential hazards pointed out, branches, logs, uneven ground Area to be checked before the start of every session Walking expected at all times 	2	3	6				
All participants – walking into eye level branches/ branches being flicked, collecting sticks, branches & logs. Catching other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety brief for all participants Continuous monitoring throughout the session Remove branches if possible Activity run in accordance with SOP's and the activity overview Safety brief for all participants 	3	2	6				

Who could be harmed, and how?	What is already being done to control the risks?	*Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood			What further action is recommended to reduce risks further?	Action by whom?	Date action due	Date action done
		S	L	S x L				
team members with the ends of sticks or branches, poked eyes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boundaries set out to the whole group Potential hazards pointed out All briefed on carrying wood correctly Walking at all times to be communicated Continuous monitoring of group and their behaviour 							
All participants – cooking around the fire. Any injury from burns, scalds etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear instructions about fire safety All long hair to be tied back All clothing to be secure Set boundaries that participants should not cross Ask the participants to kneel or remain still whilst cooking to prevent falling or tripping around the fire Only instructor to handle hot pans, heat proof gloves to be worn Continuous monitoring of participants 	3	2	6				
All participants – knife skills. Cuts or stabbing wounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear instructions of how to hold, use & pass knives Use the bubble method which allows the participant space to work Return the knife to the locking mode / into sheath when not in use Continuous monitoring of participants & behaviour Count knives out and back in again once the activity has finished 	4	2	8				
All participants – fire lighting, burns, scalds etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in pairs or small groups Clear safety brief for working with fire lighters Ask staff to help with lighting and monitoring All long hair to be tied up Continuous monitoring of all participants & behaviour 	4	1	4				

Who could be harmed, and how?	What is already being done to control the risks?	*Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood			What further action is recommended to reduce risks further?	Action by whom?	Date action due	Date action done
		S	L	S x L				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If making charcoal or charcloth then gloves should be used to handle the hot tin 							
All participants – windy / extreme weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather forecast to be checked prior to start of session Stop for a break if needed Session ceased if needed, check with Senior management 	4	2	8				
All participants – fire lighting instruments lost or stolen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lighters, strikers, matches to be counted out and back in after use Close supervision of equipment 	3	1	3				

* [Click here](#) for guidance in calculating Risk Rating. Rate the **severity** of the potential harm (between 1-5, where 5 is fatal) and the **likelihood** of the harm occurring (again 1-5 where 5 is very likely). Guidance is at [HS 004](#).

Please now pass this assessment to your manager for approval

Name of assessor's manager:	Ack Moore	Date:	21/2/22	Manager's comments	
Signature:					