

	Title of risk assessment	NATURE TRAIL	Current risk rating	LOW
	Site / Location / address	Lees Wood Scout & Guide Activity Centre Fir Tree Hill, Chandler's Cross, Rickmansworth WD3 4LY	Date of assessment	22 Jan 2025
People who have contributed to the detail of this risk assessment (continue on separate sheet if necessary): All those who may be affected including, where applicable, people supported have been consulted with during the completion of this document and arrangements.		Risk assessment reference number		LW_A_008_NT
		<a href="http://www.scouts.org.uk">www.scouts.org.uk</a> POR 9.1 Activities Risk Assessment FS120000		
<p>Immerse yourself in our enchanting woodland of Lees Wood that bursts with nature and wildlife. Explore our Nature Trail created by The Volunteer Crews, following our pathways and reading our descriptive plaques regarding the local wildlife, flowers and fauna. The trail is a circular walk which starts to the left of the Assault Course. At a leisurely pace, it takes about one hour to complete. The route is marked by numbered trail markers situated along the path to correspond with the map (which can be collected from the Site Office). There are a number of steep slopes in the valley areas and seats are provided along the way. In summer the trail is usually dry under foot but in wetter conditions the paths may be muddy and therefore you are advised to dress accordingly. The Site Crew and Wardens continue to manage our woodlands to the best of their ability, from time to time there will be fallen trees / branches.</p>				
<p><b><u>This activity is self-run by visiting group leaders. The information below is provided to assist groups' responsible leaders in the preparation of their own documented Risk Assessment.</u></b></p> <p><b>As the Leader in charge you are responsible for the supervision of your group, including ensuring the safety of all participants. Our risk assessment cannot take in to account the competence of the supervision nor the ability, medical condition, or attitude of the participants. This Risk Assessment does not cover activities (e.g. games, free time, camping, contingency plans), which will each require their own. You may also need to consider any specific individual needs.</b></p> <p><b>It is expected that the factors below will be considered by the groups' responsible leader when completing their own documented Risk Assessment before and during use of the activity. What other Hazards arising do you need to consider? Never be afraid to stop the activity if it is becoming unsafe! Activity Leaders are to ensure that the correct Adult / Young Person Ratios are to be adhered to.</b></p>				

Name	Role / Position	Signature	Name	Role / Position	Signature	Short description of the task or activity			
Bruce Scott	Assistant Warden (Risk)	BDS				<p align="center"><b>Specific Risk assessment:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Nature Trail</b></p> <p align="center"><b>This is a Self-Led Activity</b></p>			
Ian Leach	Lees Wood Activity Centre Deputy Warden	IL							
Graham Raven	Lees Wood Activity Centre Head Warden	GR							
Identify the hazards, who & what could be harmed and how						Assess the likelihood and risk			
Hazard		Who / What Could be harmed / damaged	Hazardous event	Reasonably foreseeable worse case injury	Existing controls: i.e. Safe systems of work, training, equipment instructions, support plans (be specific), other risk assessments i.e. COSHH, work at height, manual handling, etc.	Accidents, near-miss events, frequency of task/activity, gaps in existing controls, etc.	Likelihood (L) 1-5	Severity (S) 1-5	Risk Rating Score 1-25
1	Uneven Ground	Instructors / Campsite Crew / Participants	Slips, trips and falls on uneven surfaces	Cuts / abrasions, muscular skeletal and other physical injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full inspection of Activity Area prior to use. Debris / grass cuttings stemming from weather / maintenance to be cleared as quickly as possible.</li> <li>• Make sure activity area does not become untidy. Check activity area before starting. Suitable warning signs in place.</li> <li>• Suitable footwear to be worn. <b>Feet must be covered.</b></li> <li>• Report any damage to range to enable inspection and repair.</li> <li>• <b>No running allowed.</b></li> <li>• There will always be a responsible adult member of the visiting group present to support the children/young people. This adult will be responsible for the behaviour of the group. This adult will ensure the instructor leading the session knows about any medical conditions or additional needs the group members may have.</li> <li>• Instructors should not start the session until this adult is present. Visiting groups must provide first aid cover as they are</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	2	6

					responsible for the young people, however, Lees Wood will provide additional first aid cover on sessions run by Lees Wood instructors.				
2	Weather	Instructors / Campsite Crew / Participants	Extreme Weather (Heat, Cold, Wind, Lightening, Snow, torrential rain etc)	Sessions may have to be cancelled during periods of heavy rain and storms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructor to be aware. Appropriate clothing to be worn by all involved.</li> <li>It may be appropriate to stop activities due to some extreme weather or if the group is not appropriately clothed for the environment.</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	1	3
	Dusk / Fading Light / Winter Months		Darkness	Getting Lost / Anxiety / Injuries in the dark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Realistic plan for the day, with cut short options.</li> <li>Torches carried if suspected back late or in the dark.</li> </ul>	None Recorded	4	2	8
3	Participants	Instructors / Campsite Crew / Participants	Behaviour	Physical injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control and discipline by leader in charge.</li> <li>Safety talk to be given by activity instructor before each session commences.</li> <li>If in the opinion of the instructor the behaviour of an individual or the group as a whole is not conducive to running a safe session then the activity session will be stopped and the person or persons causing concern removed.</li> <li>No person under the influence of alcohol or drugs should be allowed on the activity site.</li> <li>Activity terminated if not considered safe.</li> </ul>	None Recorded	2	1	2
		Instructors / Campsite Crew / Participants	Collisions with other participants causing concussion, bruises or abrasions	Cuts / abrasions, muscular skeletal and other physical injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leaders to ensure participants are spaced apart when activity takes place. Leaders to ensure there is good participant control during the session.</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	2	6
4	Wildlife	Instructors / Campsite Crew / Participants	Insects	Invertebrate Stings/bites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants will be advised of stinging and biting plants/animals.</li> <li>Children will be supervised by adults at all times.</li> <li>Advise of the way to capture and release animals safely.</li> <li>Be aware of any allergies and medical requirements.</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	2	6
			Flowers / Fungi	Contact with potentially harmful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants will be advised not to touch any hazardous plants and not to eat</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	2	6

				plants and fungi / Nettles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>anything whilst in the woods.</li> <li>Hands to be washed with soap after the activity and before eating.</li> </ul>				
			Soils	Soil Borne Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants to be advised not to get soil in mouth or eyes.</li> <li>Nothing to be eaten during the activity.</li> <li>Hands to be washed with soap after the activity and before eating</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	2	6
5	Separation	Instructors / Campsite Crew / Participants	Lost participant	Anxiety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants be advised of the risk of getting lost.</li> <li>Close supervision of Adult / Child Ratios to be maintained.</li> <li>Registers to be taken at beginning and end of activity.</li> <li>Regular headcounts</li> <li>Children to be advised never to go out of a clean line of site to the activity leader.</li> <li>If a child is lost or reported lost they should follow the Lost child protocol.</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	2	6
6	Traffic	Instructors / Campsite Crew / Participants	Speeding vehicles	Death or Major Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A 5mph Speed Limit has been imposed onsite. All drivers are to maintain this speed.</li> <li>Activity Leaders are to brief up participants about dangers of crossing the routes used by vehicles.</li> <li>Supervise road/car park crossings by groups.</li> <li>Maintain clear sight lines at all road crossings</li> <li>Use pedestrian crossings wherever possible.</li> <li>Leader at front plus back marker at all times.</li> <li>Walk in single file if narrow paths.</li> <li>High visibility vests are encouraged to be worn by group.</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	4	12
7	Unsupervised Dogs	Instructors / Campsite Crew / Participants	Dog bites	Major/ Minor Injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lees Wood S&amp;G Activity Centre has a Zero Tolerance to dogs being onsite, wither supervised or unsupervised.</li> <li>If a dog is spotted, the location is to be reported to the Site Crew, who will make it a priority to remove any dogs.</li> <li>Activity Leaders are to give verbal briefings to all participants to include</li> </ul>	None Recorded	3	4	12

					importance of not approaching unknown dogs.				
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## Lost Child Protocol

1. A lost child should stand still and shout "1,2,3 I'm over here" and repeat until found.
2. The rest of the group should stay with one adult while the other adults spread out shouting "1,2,3 Where are you" repeatedly until the missing child is located.
3. Once found, the child should then be led back to the rest of the group and adults be made aware by mobile phone.

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## Emergency Procedure

1. There must be a first aider and first aid kit present amongst the Activity Users, when this activity is in progress, and there must be a functioning mobile phone carried by Instructor/ Group leader.
2. If a serious injury occurs that requires help from the emergency services, the following procedure is to be followed:
  - a) The activity is to cease.
  - b) Initial triage of the casualty is to be carried out.
  - c) 999 called with a full description of location of incident/injury given.

Address: Lees Wood Scout & Guide Activity Centre, Fir Tree Hill,  
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What3Words: **BOUNTY.HOLDS.LUNGS**

3. Participants are to be sent to an alternative site.
4. Camp Crew to be notified immediately.
5. Main gate to be manned to receive and give directions to emergency services.
6. Ensure that the equipment is not left unsupervised.

7. Warden to be informed.  
8. Group to start InTouch procedures.

Additional arrangements required to reduce risk:									
No	Recommendations and actions required to reduce risk	Residual risk with additional controls			Deadline for action (Date)	Action to be completed by (name)	Monitoring arrangements Active and Reactive	Action Complete (date)	Comments / additional information
		S	L	R					

To add more rows to this section, place the cursor to the left of the line above until you see a + sign and 'click'

**Management ownership** - I confirm that this risk assessment is suitable and sufficient, and that I will ensure the implementation, monitoring and review of the arrangements as stated.

Managers Name	Graham Raven Head Warden Lees Wood	Manager's Signature	<i>G. RAVEN</i>	Date signed	31 Jan 2025	Next review due (based on risk level)	Feb 2026
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Reviewer Name	Role	Date of Review	Reason for Review	Signature	Next Review Date
		09 Feb 2025	Annual		Feb 2026


5 x 5 Risk Matrix								
Risk Rating Guidance	Likelihood (L)	5	5	10	15	20	25	Likelihood (L) x Severity (S) = Risk Rating (RR).
		4	4	8	12	16	20	
		3	3	6	9	12	15	
		2	2	4	6	8	10	
		1	1	2	3	4	5	
			1	2	3	4	5	
Severity (S)								
Acceptability of Risk Guidance	High Risk: 15-25	High-risk activities should cease immediately. Further effective control measures to mitigate risks must be introduced.						
	Medium Risk: 8-12	Medium-risks are an acceptable level based on the reduced likelihood after sufficient control measures are implemented.						
	Low Risk: 1-6	Low-risks are largely acceptable. Where it is reasonable to do so, efforts should be made to reduce risks further.						
Guidance. When completing a risk assessment, you should:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify the persons at risk and the significant hazards.</li> <li>2. Calculate an initial RR for the activity.</li> <li>3. Identify risk control measures that reduce the risks to an acceptable level.</li> <li>4. Calculate a revised RR - you should consider how much safer the task will be if the control measures are followed. Here, you should consider changing both the likelihood (L) and the severity (S) ratings.</li> </ol>							
<b>Note.</b> Ideally, you should look to reduce the risks so that the task can be classified as "low-risk".								

Likelihood (L)	Definition	Points rating
Inevitable	If the work continues as it is, there is almost 100% certainty that an accident will happen, for examples: A broken stair or broken rung on a ladder, Bare, exposed electrical conductors, Unstable stacks of heavy boxes	5
Highly likely	Will happen more often than not. Additional factors could precipitate an incident but it is still likely to happen without this additional factor.	4
Possible	The accident may occur if additional factors precipitate it, but it is unlikely to happen without them.	3
Unlikely	This incident or illness might occur but the probability is low and the risk minimal.	2

Severity (S)	Definition	Points rating
Very high	Causing multiple deaths and widespread destruction e.g. fire, course/building collapse.	5
High	Causing death, serious injury or permanent disability to an individual.	4
Moderate	Temporary disability causing injury (to member of the public, contractor or employees) or disease capable of keeping an employee off work for seven days or more and reportable under RIDDOR (Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995).	3
Slight	Minor injury (to member of the public, contractor or employee), which would allow the individual to continue work after first aid treatment on site or at a local surgery. The duration of the stoppage or treatment is such that the normal flow of work is not seriously interrupted.	2

<b>Remote possibility</b>	There is really no risk present. Only under freak conditions could there be any possibility of an accident or illness. All reasonable precautions have been taken - This should be the normal state of the workplace.	<b>1</b>
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<b>Nil</b>	Very minor injury, bruise, graze, no risk of disease.	<b>1</b>
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**The Review Process. This risk assessment will be reviewed when it is suspected that the assessment is no longer valid or there has been a significant change. In addition, it will be reviewed annually.**

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