

Foxlease Park Risk Assessment

Bushcraft

Risk information



Ropes	Yellow
Land	Green
Water	Blue
Self Led	Purple

S x L = RF				
S / L	RF	Colour code	Response	RF what to do next
1-2	1-5	Green	Low	Manage through routine procedures
3	6-10	Yellow	Moderate	Specific monitoring or procedures required, action must be specified
4-5	11-18	Red	High	Action plan required, senior management attention needed
	19-25	Red	Extreme	Immediate action required

Clarification	
Instructor	The ones running the session
Leaders	The additional adult to help with the group management
Participants	The person or persons that are using the activity e.g. climber or belayer on the climbing wall
All users	All users that are involved in the session use e.g. Instructor, Leaders, Participants not Spectators
Everybody	Anyone that could be using the activity or may walk through or pass the activity such as Spectators

Generic risk assessment for instructor-led activities on the land.



Location:	Foxlease Park	Assessor:	Alison Dixon
Date of Assessment:	14/05/2026	Date of review:	14/05/2027
Description of area or activity:	Generic risk assessment for instructor-led activities on the land.		Technical Advisor: N/A
Equipment used:	N/A		

Activity	Hazard	Description of potential accident/injury/loss	Who is affected	Precautions/controls already in place	Risk	Risk	Risk	Further control measures applied	Action by	Net	Net	Net
					S	L	F			S	L	F
All	Adverse weather (lightning)	Hit by lightning, possible death	All users	The activity will not go ahead if there are thunderstorms and lightning conditions. No running in the compound. Instructors will issue a clear briefing/instructions on what to do if thunder and lightning are seen or heard. The weather forecast will be checked by a senior member of staff on the day.	4	1	4	The 3030 rule is followed. If the flash to bang is 30 seconds in length, you should seek some shelter. Staying inside the shelter is advised until 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder.	Instructor	3	1	5
All	Adverse weather (high winds)	Customers get tangled in the elements, possible cuts and bruises	All users	The activity cannot take place in strong winds(25mph or more). The activity will be cancelled if the winds are forecast to exceed 25 mph. If, during the day, wind speeds exceed 25 mph, the activity will be postponed until the wind subsides or rescheduled.	4	1	4	Instructor to check the forecast on the day of the activity. On large activity days, a staff briefing will include a weather forecast.	Instructor	3	1	5
All	Slips, trips and falls from uneven ground	Minor injuries, bruises, sprains and strains	All users	The activity typically takes place in the natural environment where the ground is often uneven, wet, and slippery. Participants and instructors are to wear appropriate clothes and footwear for the environment.	2	3	6		Instructor	2	3	6
All	Hair / jewellery / clothing or other items caught in equipment	Entanglement in the equipment, causing entrapment, finger injuries, and a participant trapped on the equipment.	Participants	All participants are advised to remove or tuck away all jewellery before the start of the session. Long hair should be tied back or out of the way of any equipment. If jewellery cannot be removed, tape can be offered to cover up and prevent snagging. The helmet (if worn) strap should be tucked away if possible.	3	4	12	Elastic bands for hair ties will be provided with the session leader's kit. All instructors are trained & assessed in the emergency action plan as set out in the Safe Operating Procedures.	Instructor	3	3	3

Activity	Hazard	Description of potential accident/injury/loss	Who is affected	Precautions/controls already in place	Risk S	Risk L	Risk F	Further control measures applied	Action by	Net S	Net L	Net F
All	Injury from poorly maintained/damaged equipment	Face, neck, eye and hand injuries	Participants / instructors	All staff are trained in procedures and methods of checking equipment. Equipment is checked before use.	3	2	6	Broken/damaged equipment needs to be removed and quarantined in a designated area, then immediately made known to a senior member of staff/volunteer.	Instructor Foxlease senior staff/volunteer	3	1	3
All	Running drop in sessions	Participants not having a full brief due to the nature of the session.	All users	Drop-in sessions will operate as the in-house training. More individual help will be given to the participants. Session Safe Operating Procedures do not change.	2	3	6	An additional instructor will be added to the session to manage participants. In-house training will be given on how to operate a drop-in session. The area should be more clearly marked for safety to reduce the risk of people walking into the session area during periods of higher foot traffic.	Instructor Foxlease senior staff/volunteer	2	2	6
All	First aid	Minor and major injuries getting worse	Everybody	Foxlease Park instructor-led sessions will have a first aid kit during the session. For self-led sessions, the group leader should provide a suitable first aider and a first aid kit.	4	3	12	The reception will have a first aid kit. All instructors are to hold a 1-day first aid certificate as a minimum requirement. Where groups do not have a suitable first aider or first aid kit, Foxlease Park can provide.	Foxlease Park Senior Staff Instructor Group Leader	4	1	5



		Alison Dixon	
Date of Assessment:	14/05/2026	Date of review:	14/05/2027
Description of area or activity:	Fire lighting, shelter building and backwoods cooking		Technical Advisor: Alison Dixon
Equipment used:	Various equipment for different firelighting methods, altar fires, water barrels, buckets, and ingredients cooking.		

Activity	Hazard	Description of potential accident/injury/loss	Who is affected	Precautions/controls already in place	Risk S	Risk L	Risk F	Further control measures applied	Action by	Net S	Net L	Net F
Bushcraft	Fire lighting activity	Burns.	Instructor participant	Instructors are trained in accordance with SOPs; the use of any flammable liquids is prohibited. Participants are asked to tie their long hair back and loose clothing out of the way—the instructor will control the amount of fire-starting material (cotton/wool/tinder). Participants are advised only to walk around the fire.	4	2	8	Water will be accessible before the start of the session to extinguish the fire. Group control for all participants to be seated or kneeling when lighting the fire.	Instructor	4	1	4
Bushcraft	Falling onto the fire	Burns in particular to the face and hands	Session Leader/participant	Participants are advised only to walk around the fire. The Instructor should remain in control of the session at all times. The instructor should ensure the fire is extinguished when the session is finished. When toasting marshmallows, all participants should have a stick or skewer that is at least 30cm long to avoid close contact with the fire.	4	2	8	Heat resistant gloves are available if necessary	Instructor	4	1	4
Bushcraft	Smoke Inhalation	Smoke inhalation, causing coughing, lung irritation, affects specifically people with asthma.	Participants. Asthma sufferers	Medical conditions should be disclosed to the instructor before the activity. Position the group around the fire according to the wind direction. Instruct participants to move if the wind direction changes. Take regular breaks away from the fire. Activity takes place	3	2	6		Instructor	2	2	4
Bushcraft	Rope & tools for shelter building	Rope burns, strangulation, and trapped fingers whilst building the shelters	Participants	Instructors will teach appropriate knot tying and rope management to prevent rope burns, strangulation, and finger entrapment. Closely supervise the use of tools—instructor demonstration of the use of a mallet.	2	2	4		Instructor	2	1	2
Bushcraft	Collapsing shelter	Injuries to participants from falling equipment, branches or poles.	Participants	Participants are instructed on how to build a shelter, the knots to use, and the materials to use. The safety brief will include not entering shelters whilst they are being built. The instructor will inspect the shelter for tightness of knots and stability of the structure.	4	3	12	Diagrams and instructions included in the in-house training and Safe Operating Procedures.	Instructor	3	2	6

Activity	Hazard	Description of potential accident/injury/loss	Who is affected	Precautions/controls already in place	Risk S	Risk L	Risk F	Further control measures applied	Action by	Net S	Net L	Net F
Bushcraft	Out of control fire	Burns, damage to surroundings	Everyone	Only designated areas are to be used for firelighting. Fire-fighting equipment is nearby. Water buckets to extinguish fire will be placed nearby. Instructors are to check that fires are completely out at the end of the session.	5	2	10	Fires are not to be left unattended. Long grass/leaves, etc., are removed from close to the fire pit/circles.	Instructor	4	1	4
Bushcraft	Cooking over fire	Burns in particular to face hands, or mouth,	All Users	When toasting marshmallows or cooking bread twists, all participants must have a stick or skewer at least 30cm long to avoid close contact with the fire and prevent injury. Instructors will brief the group that food will be hot and allow time to cool down before eating. All participants are to sit or kneel around the fire. Instructors to have medical information for the group before the session	4	2	8	Heat resistant gloves are available if necessary	Instructor	4	1	4
Bushcraft	Allergies / dietary issues	Swelling, breathing difficulties, anxiety.	All users	Instructors to check with group organisers for any known allergies or dietary issues.	5	2	10		Instructors/ Group Leaders	5	1	5