

Health & Safety Risk Assessment for Shelter Building and Tribal Kingdoms.

Shelter Building and Tribal Kingdoms						
Hazard/Risk	Who could be affected by hazard.	Likelihood of being affected	Worst consequence of being affected	Risk Level	How hazard/risk is mitigated	Residual risk level
VSA/VC separated from group and lost in local area.	FST VSA VC	1	20	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to ensure that the risk is outlined to their group. That the group should never separate or split up. When moving from one location to another the FST should ensure that the VSA conduct head counts before and after move. The FST should also ensure that either they or VSA are positioned at the back and front of the party. The FST should clearly point out the boundaries of the area of activity to their group. Hooke Park has marked the trees at the edge of the area and these should be pointed out to both VSA and VC. The FST should establish a method of recall for the group whilst they are working. This may be a whistle or other loud noise. The FST should recall the group at their discretion to conduct head counts and further instruction if deemed necessary. The FST should outline to the VSA/VC what to do in the unlikely event of becoming separated from the rest of the group. Remain where you are and the rest of the group will come to find you. 	LOW

Hazard/Risk	Who could be affected by hazard.	Likelihood of being affected	Worst consequence of being affected	Risk Level	How hazard/risk is mitigated	Residual risk level
Collision with car or other vehicle on route to woods or on return journey to centre.	FST VSA VC	1	75	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FST to warn of dangers involved in walking along the road. • FST establish system of signaling when a car is coming, e.g. a loud whistle blast, and instruct VSA/VC on routine. All to step to side of the road and face the traffic and wait until it has passed. • FST to ensure VC understand not to wave at or distract drivers in any way. • FST should exercise extreme caution in low light, foggy or misty conditions. They must use their discretion when deciding whether or not to use a torch to help with group visibility. • FST to ensure that a VSA or FST is positioned at the back and front of the group to signal when car is coming. They should also be wearing high visibility jacket. • FST to ensure group is all on the same side of the road, and change sides of the road at blind spots on corners. • FST/VSA to ensure that VC walk in single file along the road. • FST use their discretion when instructing VSA where to accompany VC, options include back and front, on road side of walking VC etc. 	LOW

Hazard/Risk	Who could be affected by hazard.	Likelihood of being affected	Worst consequence of being affected	Risk Level	How hazard/risk is mitigated	Residual risk level
Injury caused by agricultural hardware on route to/from activity site.	FST VSA VC	2	20	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST are familiar with routes to the woods and regularly conduct visual inspections. FST warn VSA/VC prior to departure against types of fencing e.g barbed wire, and any farm machinery passed along the route. FST avoid the cross-country route if the farmer has used electric fencing. FST/VSA should ensure that all VSA/VC use suitable gates and styles to cross fences and hedges where applicable. 	LOW
Injury caused by farm animals.	FST VSA VC	1	75	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to ensure route taken to the activity site is not through areas where young or aggressive animals are kept. FST should use their discretion to avoid any area of concern. If farm animals are present in any area through which group passes the FST/VSA should keep the group together and move at a steady pace without running. 	LOW
Collision with stationary or moving object, or person/s causing injury.	FST VSA VC	5	5	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to warn of risk at the start of the activity, outlining safe practice whilst working in the woods. No running, watch out for slippery mud, low branches, trees etc. FST to outline safe area of activity in the woods. At no time should any group member be beyond the sight of activity area, well away from road and stream. 	LOW

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<p><u>Shelter Building:</u></p> <p>1. Object/shelter dropped or knocked onto person/s causing injury to individual.</p> <p>2. Injury caused by sharp ends on branches, sticks, hedges, brambles or bushes.</p>	FST VSA VC CGS	2	20	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FST to carry out prior inspection of site to check for fallen branches etc. • FST to warn of danger to everyone including FST working in the woods. • Hooke Court centre to inform Hooke Park of intended use of woods to ensure no tree felling or similar is going on in activity area. • FST to instruct VSA/VC on the safe method for carrying and moving branches and building materials for shelters. One at each end, any more and the branch is too big to be used. • FST to warn of risks when carrying long branches and sticks, remember as much is behind as in front. They should be carried in a horizontal position, and never used as a spear, javelin or sword. • FST to ensure that base branches are firmly secure against support tree before building begins apace. • FST to check initial framework of shelter to ensure that it is sound enough for further construction and safe for group members to enter to continue building. • FST to ensure VSA and VC are told not to leave any branch or building material unattended propped against a tree or similar from where it may fall unexpectedly onto individual. • FST to ensure that they do not work alone whilst dismantling shelters, CGS should be used to help if working alone. 	LOW

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Reaction to tree or plant pollen causing discomfort/congestion.	FST VSA VC	2	20	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to outline potential discomfort to allergy sufferers. Hooke Court Information to Visiting Staff to include warning to visiting groups so that VSA/VC can take necessary precautions and/or medication taken. 	LOW
Falling branches or trees causing crush injury, or puncture type injury to face/eyes/ears.	FST, VSA, VC CGS	1	75	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to ensure that they visually check site at beginning of activity to assess any potential hazards from 'hung up' trees or branches. FST to warn of danger caused by low level branches and twigs, stressing this particularly in low light conditions. Further restrictions may be placed upon moving around the activity site at the discretion of FST. FST must use discretion in high winds, heavy snow and adverse weather conditions before undertaking activity. 	LOW
Infection in new or existing wound from water, mud or general dirt.	FST VSA VC	2	10	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to warn of danger and provide surgical gloves and waterproof plasters to protect existing or new injuries. FST to ensure first Aid kit taken on activity with sufficient supplies to cater for group. FST to remind all VSA VC to wash hands with soap and hot water after activity or before any food is handled. 	LOW

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Stomach upset, virus or disease caused by contact or ingestion of water, mud, or general dirt.	FST VSA VC	2	20	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to warn of danger to group if they don't follow simple safety guidelines. To include not putting fingers into mouth, chewing pencils etc. FST/VSA to ensure VC do not splash water or mud whilst in or around work site. FST/VSA/VC to wash hands with soap and hot water after activity. 	LOW
Stomach upset, virus or reaction caused by insect/reptile bite, or contact with poisonous plants or fungi	FST VSA VC, CGS	1	75	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to warn of danger caused by snakes and biting insects, VSA/VC must inform FST of anything remotely causing concern. FST to be aware of plants and fungi to be avoided and check site prior to activity taking place for potential hazard. FST to clearly state that nothing should be eaten found in the woods or countryside, even if individuals think they recognise it FST to be aware of insects which may cause infections/reactions or diseases. Ticks may be found in bracken, and snakes in boggy areas, FST may use discretion to avoid such areas if possible during spring/summer periods. 	LOW
Fall under/from foresters' machinery or woodpiles.	FST VSA VC.	1	75	75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to warn of danger and ensure VSA/VC do not tamper or interfere with woodpiles or machinery of any kind. FST and VSA to directly observe and supervise group at all times and keep within visual contact. 	LOW

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Injury caused to individual by sharp pencil and/or clipboard	FST VSA VC	5	5	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to ensure that VC when writing or sketching are not moving around and are stationary in a safe position away from hazards. 	LOW
<u>Face Painting:</u> Risk of allergic reaction	FST VSA VC	2	5	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST and VSA to ensure any VC with allergy to face paint not to participate. 	LOW
<u>Tribal Raid Game:</u> Slip, trip or fall as taking part in activity.	FST VSA VC	2	20	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to ensure a method to stop activity immediately, by whistle or otherwise, to maintain control and sustain suitable levels of behavior within the group with the help of the VSA FST to warn of danger to all participants. FST to check the area of activity prior to activity to check for potential hazards, trees, molehills etc. Ropes used for prison and bank brightly coloured and not secured to the ground to reduce trip risk. FST/CGS to ensure that picnic tables are moved well back from area of activity. 	LOW
Collision with other person(s) or other object on or near field of play.	FST, VSA VC CGS	2	20	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FST to warn of danger to all participants. FST to check the area of activity prior to activity to check for potential hazards, trees, molehills etc. Ropes used for prison and bank brightly coloured and not secured to the ground to reduce trip risk. FST/CGS to ensure that picnic tables are moved well back from area of activity. 	LOW

Date Reviewed: January 2026 Next Review Date January 2027