

Risk assessment – Overnight expedition and camp cooking RA

Bolton School	Assessment carried out by: S.Bradley/E.Lindle
Date of next review: 04/09/2026	Date assessment was carried out: 04/09/2025

Overview of activity					
What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed?	What are you already doing to control the risk?	What further action do you need to take to control the risks?	Who needs to carry out the action?	When is the action needed by?
Emergency situation in remote locations	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry radio and mobile phone. • Brief participants on what to do if you the instructor should become incapacitated. 	n/a	Staff	At the start of each session
Weather/ heat /cold/ wind	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose a campsite that is protected from the prevailing weather, whether that is the wind, sun or rain. Consider flooding risk. • In hot weather think about water source or organize a water drop. 	n/a	Staff	Throughout session
Risks on campsite such as walls and trees and drops, manmade risks such as swings etc. flooding.	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure that participants are aware of the dangers of camping next to loose stone walls and do not let them attach tent guy lines to walls to prevent the danger of dislodging stones onto tents. • Point out any drops that could be dangerous at night when a participant is looking for a toilet spot. • Check trees that could be a hazard if the wind were to build overnight. • As above be aware of any flooding risks if the weather were to change or rain more heavily than expected. 	n/a	Staff	Throughout session
Hand washing and basic hygiene	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk participants through the importance of hand washing after toileting and before eating. 	n/a	Staff Students	Throughout session
Getting lost from tent	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All tent groups to have at least one torch per tent. • Participants must let someone in their tent know if they go to the toilet during the night. • Set up an area for toileting at night. • Participants must wear shoes. 	n/a	Staff Students	Throughout session
General public when using campsites. (strangers)	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep tents together; don't let participants locate themselves away from the main group. 	n/a	Staff Students	Throughout session

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruct participants to report to you if they see anyone they do not recognize around the camp area. 			
Burns	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burns gel, in the first aid kits must be available when ever stoves are being used. All stoves to be placed in locations and on surfaces where the chance of being knocked over or where participants could step over them is minimized. Suitable lighting device must be used for the stove to prevent fingers from getting burnt. Watch out for fuel flares from poor connections or changes in wind directions. Fire gloves to be made available for handling big pots on double burners, grab handles to be used with Trangias. Ensure all participants are briefed on the safe procedure for using any stoves in use and then monitored until the instructor is sure that they are competent to use the stoves unsupervised. (I.e. qualifying d of e expeditions). All stoves must be cool before being handled or packed away. Fuel bottles with anti-flash caps to be used at all times. 	n/a	Staff Students	At the start of each session/throughout
Fire risk	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants to be well briefed on the risks associated with any stove. Trangia users must understand the importance of only filling the gel burner once it has cooled, double burner users must be aware of the risk of tent material catching fire if allowed to contact the burner. All Trangia cooking must take place well away from tents. It is acceptable to rig a tarp to protect participants from the weather if necessary. 	n/a	Staff Students	At the start of each session/throughout
Misuse of camp cooking stoves including gel burners and double gas burners.	Staff Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear, concise briefings to be given by instructors before participants start to cook Close monitoring of the cooking process to be maintained until stoves are packed away, unless group is an experienced DofE group. 	n/a	Staff	At the start of each session/throughout