Adventure Group – risk assessment for externally provided activities

Use this risk assessment before leading an activity to help understand the risks and any steps needed to be taken to stay safe. Complete a copy for every activity and keep this for 1 year after the date of the activity.

Activity	Zip wire and tree walking	Date of activity	13/11/21
Adventure Leader	Ann Moran	Date of risk assessment	28/10/21
Activity Provider	Go Ape	Date of research or recce	26/10/21

Possible hazards	Who might be harmed and how?	Ways to control the risk	Activity specific notes	Action taken? (click on the box to tick)
Bad weather (including extreme temperatures) (Outdoor activities only)	Participants – risk of illness and injury	Check the weather forecast and postpone/cancel if necessary.	To be checked on the day	
		Advise participants to bring suitable clothing and items for the conditions.	Wear weather suitable clothing, being aware that conditions may be muddy. Stomach area must be covered. Gloves are advised.	
Slips, trips and falls	Participants	Make participants aware of potential hazards; advise on suitable footwear	Wear closed toe, flat footwear with a good grip.	
Hazards due to specific nature of activity	Participants - risk of e.g. injury, drowning, vertigo	Notify participants of any likely physical risks so they may make an informed decision re their personal fitness for the activity.	Fitness appropriate for climbing up and down ladders, negotiating wobbly rope ladders and swinging from high zip wires. Manual dexterity for attaching clips.	
		Ensure participants declare any relevant medical conditions to the provider.	Remind participants on the day	
		Employ experts to instruct and supervise the activity with safety as a priority. Ensure they include appropriate instruction to mitigate known physical risks (e.g.what to do in emergency)	Instructors to advise on all health and safety matters; techniques for harness attachment and clipping; climbing; rope bridge walking; emergency procedures etc.	



Possible hazards	Who might be harmed and how?	Ways to control the risk	Activity specific notes	Action taken? (click on the box to tick)
		Ensure experts are appropriately qualified to teach and supervise the activity.	Go Ape provide appropriate in house training for their staff.	
		Ensure provider has first aid certification and first aid kit is available.	Yes and yes.	
		Ensure provider supplies appropriate safety equipment e.g. buoyancy aids; harness etc	Harnesses and clips are provided.	
		Ensure provider holds public liability insurance.	Yes (£10 million)	
Environmental risks	Participants	Ensure participants are aware of environmental hazards (e.g. pollution; poor water quality; uneven and slippery surfaces; overhanging trees; road traffic) and the actions needed to mitigate these.	Participants are advised to wash hands before eating or drinking. Participants advised to negotiate course hazards with due care, being particularly mindful of slippery conditions. Advised as to correct action in event of emergency.	
Loss of money	Participants – due to cancellation by either party	Establish provider's policy for cancellation due to weather, illness or other circumstances.	8 days before: full refund 7 to 3 days before: voucher for future use less £5 admin fee 2 days before: no refund. Note that Go Ape will be open unless it is icy or stormy, or there are high winds or lightning, so the activity is unlikely to be cancelled due to bad weather.	
Loss of personal property	Participants	Establish provision of secure space for storage of personal belongings; advise participants to leave valuables at home	Participants may not take any bag with them on the course, though small items may be taken in pockets. Advised to leave larger belongings the car.	
Transmission of COVID-19 through close contact /	Participants – risk of spreading	Plan the activity for a less busy time.	Activity to take place on an off-season weekend. (Go Ape is closed mid week in November)	
meeting other people	COVID-19	Avoid activities where physical distancing is not possible.	Physical distancing is possible.	

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		Give clear information about limiting the group size in line with government guidance.	Group size is in line with government guidance.	
		Remind participants beforehand about the guidelines, including on travel & transport.	Included in website briefing.	
		Advise participants at the start of the activity to maintain physical distancing, and what to do at any pinch points – this is everyone's responsibility.	Remind participants on the day.	
		Carry a face covering in case of incidents.	Included in website briefing.	
		Ensure you have a record of who attended the activity for contact tracing.	Yes	
Transmission of COVID-19 through	Participants, members of the public – risk of spreading COVID-19	Avoid touching each other's equipment, where possible	Included in website briefing.	
touching equipment		Suggest participants bring hand sanitiser.	Included in website briefing.	
		Advise participants not to share food, drink or equipment.	Included in website briefing.	
Activity description and details to provide to participants before the start of the activity		 a. Type of activity b. Name of leader and leader's contact details c. Location of activity d. Date and start time e. Duration f. Cost, including deposit required g. Deadline for commitment (including payment of deposit if required) h. Deadline for payment in full i. Cancellation policy j. Procedure for notifying group if provider cancels k. Level of fitness required or any particular skills l. Need to declare relevant medical conditions m. Disclaimer: Please note that whilst the organisers are concerned for everyone's welfare, by taking part in this activity you should recognise that your safety is your own responsibility. n. Appropriate footwear & clothing 		t undated 28/10/2021

Possible hazards	Who might be harmed and how?	Ways to control the risk	Activity specific notes	Action taken? (click on the box to tick)
		 o. Toilet / refreshment facilities p. What to bring – food / drink / equipment q. Meeting point r. Car parking facilities 		