



Short/Active Risk Assessment Open Fires

Published	11.06.21		
Location	Among The Trees		
Date	11.06.21	Time	1030
Reason for RA	Use of an open fire within the Forest School or Club setting. Access to open fires by learners with supervision from leader. Setting and lighting open fires by learners with supervision from leader.		

Who is affected?		Details
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leader / Staff	Demonstrating, using and supervising use of an open fire.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Learner	Accessing, building and tending an open fire.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public	On site before, during and after school hours.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Others	

Description of risk/hazard	Severity (1-5)	Likelihood (1-5)	Risk Factor S x L =	Risk before precautions have been taken
Mild burn from a fire	4	3	12	L / N / A / U
Severe burn from a fire	5	3	15	L / N / A / U
Trip over firewood or logs	3	3	9	L / N / A / U
Learner's clothing catches fire	4	3	12	L / N / A / U
Eye injury from branch or debris	3	3	9	L / N / A / U

Low 1-3	Acceptable 11-18 (improve if possible)
Normal 4-10	Unacceptable (19+ further action needed)

Recommended precautions in place	Risk AFTER Precautions
Fire circle safety and protocol included with every session [fire or no fire].	L / N / A / U
Wearing of appropriate fire gloves when tending fire.	L / N / A / U
Use of appropriate tools that are long enough to avoid fire.	L / N / A / U
Learners only access fire square by invitation.	L / N / A / U
Appropriate modelling and supervision of learners when building fires.	L / N / A / U
Two buckets of cold fresh water + first aid kit by the fire for emergencies.	L / N / A / U

Assessed by	MC	Signature 
Position	FS Leader	
Date	11.06.21	

Risk Benefit Analysis Open Fires

Risk Benefit Analysis of Using Open Fires

Learning about and using fire through Forest Club or Forest School sessions equips learners with practical skills and awareness of what to expect when encountering open and close fires in every day life (see Life Links below)

Learning how to manage these potential risks using sharp and potentially dangerous items in a safe and controlled manner will help learners gain benefit from taking part. The benefit of taking part outweighs the levels of risk involved in the activity.

Specific Benefits From Using Open Fires

Increased EQ	Increased self-esteem & confidence	Developing resilience and grit	Holistic development	Individualised learning outcomes	Communication skills
Logical thinking	Problem solving	Outdoor connection	Environmental stewardship	Responsible resource use	Practical skills
Behaviour improvements	Learning beyond NC	Cross curricular learning	Using imagination	Being creative	Developing socially
Increasing self-awareness	Learning risk management	Developing awareness of others	Following instructions	Learning safe practices	

Life Links Through Using Open Fires

Setting and maintaining an open fire while camping or at another location.

Cooking on a BBQ.

Using a gas hob to cook on at home.

Toasting marshmallows on an open fire with family, friends or in uniformed groups.

Lighting candles or other burning flames.

Using burners or open naked flames.

Some occupational requirements.