The Christian Adventure Centre

Inspiring Growth Through Adventure

Risk Assessments & Safety Procedures

2020



Activity	Rocket Science
Location	Within Viney Hill grounds or suitable open ground, away from roads. SN 654068
Location	Within Viney Fill grounds of Sultable open ground, away non-rodus. Six 004000
Instructor Qualifications	N/A
Brief Description	Using water propelled rockets to learn about basic science. Various experiments such as distance, height and accuracy.
Main Priority Hazards	Being hit by a rocket, tripping over equipment, slipping on wet floor.
Nearest Telephone	Instructors mobile (and Viney Hill Centre Office)
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to reduce risk
Getting hit by a rocket	 Safety brief to be given by trained instructor/adult. All participants to be made aware of risks of falling rockets. All Participants in shooting area to wear helmets. Pumps top be left alone while rockets are being loaded. Instructor/adult supervision at all times to ensure safety rules are followed.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.

Activity	Orienteering (Onsite)
Location	Just the grounds of the Centre, Viney Hill.
Instructors Qualifications	N/A basic knowledge of navigation needed, in-house training given
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	All participants are encouraged to work in groups, help each other and find the relevant map references.
Main Priority Hazards	Getting lost; Going in to other activity areas/ car park Ankle injuries due to wet, slippery or muddy paths.
Nearest Telephone	Viney Hill – In the Centre
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN
	0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Getting lost	 All groups are given a safety briefing about boundaries of activity area, where they cannot go. Each group given instruction on map-reading. Each group are supervised and session designed to keep groups coming back to instructor/ adult as regular checks on their position.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.

Activity	Orienteering (Offsite)
Location	Forest of Dean/ Other locations
Instructors Qualifications	N/A basic knowledge of navigation needed, in-house training given
Guidebook/Further	N/A
Information	
Brief Description	All participants are instructed to work in groups, help each other and find the relevant
	map references.
Main Priority Hazards	Getting lost;
	Ankle injuries due to wet, slippery or muddy paths.
	Roads.
Nearest Telephone	Viney Hill – In the Centre
	Common locations
	Christchurch – Christ Church Campsite/ Mobile
	Mallards pike – Go ape/Café/Mobile
	Beachenhurst- Café/ Mobile
	Other – Mobile
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE
	0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN
	0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Getting lost	 Each group given instruction on map-reading and a safety briefing on what to do if they get lost. The safety brief includes boundary areas, safe road crossings if required (as a group, walking, section of road with clear views both directions).
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed.
Dogs	Participants warned to neither approach nor run from dogs.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling Clearing work Other work	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works. Keep away from machinery/forestry operations In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Geocaching
Location	Within a 1km radius of the Viney Hill Centre SN 654068(VH)
Instructors Qualifications	N/A basic knowledge of navigation needed, in-house training given
Brief Description	A technology lead treasure hunt with occasional team challenges to gain next coordinates
Main Priority Hazards	Getting lost, Low branches, tripping hazards, steep slopes and ditches
Nearest telephone	Instructor mobile/Centre Phone
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to reduce the risk
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed.
Group or individual getting lost	Instructor/Adult to give safety brief and to be with the group at all times.
Forest Operations such as:	Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works.
Tree felling Clearing work	and commencement of forestry works.
Other work	 Keep away from machinery/forestry operations In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar
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Activity	Caving
Location	Symonds Yat (Pinnacle cave, C2, C3-main chamber only), Doward (Pancake Caves) Mendip caves (Burrington area, Priddy) SN 563158 Yat
Instructor Qualification	LCLA 1 as a minimum
Guidebook/Further	Caves of South Wales, Tim Stratford;
Information	Caves of the South Eastern Outcrop, Tony Oldham.
Brief Description	All of the caves to be visited are generally horizontal in nature with no major hazards or obstacles to overcome. Most of the caves lie at the bottom of the main climbing area of the Symonds Yat area. The caves are approached from the main Symonds Yat car park. This risk assessment covers all of the caves to be visited with particular emphasis on Pinnacle cave.
Approach	The recommended approach to the caves is via Introductory Rocks, following the bottom of the cliff towards the Pinnacle.
Main Priority Hazards	Rocks falling from above during the approach to the cave; Route to the cave can be hazardous due to wet slippery rock/wood.
Nearest Telephone	Symonds Yat NGR 565 156 – Yat Rock RSPB car park.
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: The County Hospital, Stonebow Road, Hereford, HR2 2BN 01432 355444

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Rocks falling from above during the approach to the cave	All participants to wear approved caving helmets from the car park until they return from the caving session.
Climbers on the rock, rope on the ground	The instructor to communicate with the climbers for the best moment for the group to pass (e.g. next runner). Participants to avoid touching any of the climber's equipment.
Slippery approach due to weather conditions	Ensure all participants are wearing shoes with good tread ideally walking/wellington boots.
Slippery approach due to current weather conditions	Where necessary rig a handline or assisted handline.
Group splitting up and getting lost	Prior to entering the cave give briefing with regards to the group management. Give simple instructions on the route through the cave.
Individuals getting 'stuck' within the cave	Tailor the trip to suit the needs of the largest individual of the group.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling Clearing work Other work	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works. Keep away from machinery/forestry operations In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed.
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Climbing
Location	Symonds Yat SN 563158
Instructor Qualification	Minimum of Single Pitch Award
Guidebook/Further Information	Symonds Yat, Climbers Club.
Brief Description	All of the climbs are rigged as top ropes with the belay at the bottom. All of the climbs will be treated as single pitch climbs, where the participants are actively encouraged to help to belay each other. In all but exceptional circumstances
Approach	The recommended approach to the climbs is via several gulleys/approved routes to the bottom of the cliff. Prior knowledge of the area is a requisite before commencement of a rock related activity
Main Priority Hazards	Rocks falling from above during the session and walk in;
-	Route to the climb can be hazardous due to wet slippery rocks/wood.
Nearest Telephone	NGR 565 156 – Yat Rock RSPB car park.
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: The County Hospital, Stonebow Road, Hereford, HR2 2BN 01432 355444

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Rocks falling from the cliff	All participants to wear a CEN approved climbing helmets from the car park until
during the session and	they return from the climbing session.
approach	
Meeting climbers on the rock,	The instructor to communicate with the climbers for the best moment to pass (e.g.
rope on the ground etc.	next runner). Participants to avoid touching any of the climber's equipment.
Slippery approach due to weather conditions	Ensure all participants are wearing sensible footwear with a good tread.
Equipment correctly fitted.	Instructor to check each participant's harness and karabiner or knot (figure of eight
Knot/Karabiner correctly	knot with a stopper) are correctly attached.
attached.	,
Participants falling from the	Ensure that the belay rope is kept tight at all times.
wall	
Hair and jewellery may get	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away, jewellery etc., must be
caught in equipment, cracks	removed before the session commences.
etc.	
Participants may not belay	Give thorough briefing on how to belay correctly.
correctly, potentially causing	Instructor supervision at all times during session.
injury to the climber	
Participants may freeze on	All of the climbs should be chosen and rigged to appropriate levels of the group and
ledges, not being able to	should where possible be free of ledges.
proceed or return	
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Meeting walkers, horse riders	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path
and mountain bikers	until passed.
Forest Operations such as:	Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and
Tree felling	commencement of forestry works.
Clearing work	Keep away from machinery/forestry operations
Other work	In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Climbing Wall
Location	Viney Hill SN 654068
Instructor Qualification	In-house training and Signed off by technical advisor or Single Pitch Award
Brief Description	All of the climbs are rigged as top ropes with the belay at the bottom. All of the climbs will be treated as single pitch climbs, where the participants are actively encouraged to help belay each other.
Approach	Not applicable
Main Priority Hazards	Bumps and grazes from impacting the wall; vehicles on track around OV, falling objects, participants falling
Nearest Telephone	Viney Hill office
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce the Hazard
Banging against on wall	All participants to wear a CEN approved climbing helmets from the car park until they return from the climbing session.
Participants falling from the wall	Ensure that the belay rope is kept tight at all times.
Objects falling	Ensure all climbers remove hard objects from pockets when climbing.
Equipment correctly fitted. Knot/Karabiner correctly attached.	Instructor to check each participant's harness and karabiner or knot (figure of eight knot with a stopper) are correctly attached.
Participants may not belay correctly, potentially causing injury to the climber	Give thorough briefing on how to belay correctly. Instructor supervision at all times during session.
Hair and jewellery may get caught in equipment, artificial holds etc.	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away, jewellery etc., must be removed before the session commences.
Vehicles	Ensure driveway past the climbing wall is coned off to prevent access
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.

Activity	Abseil 1 - Symonds Yat
Location	Symonds Yat: SN 563158
Instructor Qualification	Minimum of Single Pitch Award
Guidebook/Further	Symonds Yat, Climbers Club (currently out of print).
Information	
Brief Description	At Symonds Yat there are a number of abseil possibilities.
Approach	Follow the forest tracks from the car park to the required abseil location.
Main Priority Hazards	Rocks falling from above during the session;
-	Route to the abseil can be hazardous due to wet slippery rock/wood;
	Persons falling from the top of the abseil.
Nearest Telephone	NGR 565 156 Yat Rock RSPB car park.
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE
	0300 4218722
	Major injuries: The County Hospital, Stonebow Road, Hereford, HR2 2BN
	01432 355444

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Rocks/Objects falling from the	All participants to wear an approved CEN climbing helmet from the car park until
cliff during the session	they return from the abseil session.
Slippery approach due to the	Ensure all participants are wearing sensible footwear with a good tread.
current weather conditions	
Participants falling from the	Keep all participants in a safe place away from the cliff edge. Where necessary
top of the cliff	make a pen or secure participants to a safety line.
Equipment correctly fitted.	Instructor to check each participant's harness and karabiner or knot (figure of eight
Knot/Karabiner correctly	knot with a stopper) are correctly attached.
attached.	
Hair and jewellery may get	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away. Jewellery must be
caught in equipment, cracks	removed before the session commences.
etc.	
Hair, clothing, skin etc. getting	Rig the abseil as a releasable system. Always use a safety rope.
caught in the descender	
Participants at the bottom of	Get all of the participants to stand in a safe place at the bottom of the cliff.
the abseil in the fall zone of	
equipment, rope, rocks etc.	
Meeting climbers on the rock,	The instructor to communicate with the climbers for the best moment to pass (e.g.
rope on the ground etc.	next runner). Participants to avoid touching any of the climber's equipment.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Meeting walkers, and	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path
mountain bikers	until passed.
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Abseil - Stoney Green
Location	Stoney Green Quarry (NGR 645 086)
Instructor Qualification	Minimum of Single Pitch Award
Guidebook/Further	Wye Valley, Climbers Club.
Information	
Brief Description	The abseil takes place in a small disused quarry.
Approach	Follow the rough track until you reach the base of the main cliff.
Main Priority Hazards	Rocks falling from above during the session;
	Route to the abseil can be hazardous due to wet slippery rock/wood;
	Persons falling from the top of the abseil.
Nearest Telephone	NGR 633 093. – The Barracks.
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE
	0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Rocks/Objects falling from the	All participants to wear an approved CEN climbing helmet from the car park until
cliff during the session	they return from the abseil session.
Slippery approach due to the	Ensure all participants are wearing sensible footwear with a good tread. Rig a
current weather conditions	handline/assisted handline to reach the top of the cliff, if appropriate.
Participants falling from the top of the cliff	Keep all participants on the outside of the perimeter fence until called for.
Equipment correctly fitted.	Instructor to check each participant's harness and karabiner or knot (figure of eight
Knot/Karabiner correctly attached.	knot with a stopper) are correctly attached.
Hair and jewellery may get	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away. Jewellery must be
caught in equipment, cracks etc.	removed before the session commences.
Hair, clothing, skin etc. getting	Rig the abseil as a releasable system. Always use a safety rope.
caught in the descender	
Participants at the bottom of the	Get all of the participants to stand in a safe place at the bottom of the cliff.
abseil in the fall zone of	
equipment, rope, rocks etc.	
Walking on or near roads.	Participants to walk Single File. Walk towards the traffic.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Meeting walkers, and mountain	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path
bikers	until passed.
Forest Operations such as:	Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and
Tree felling	commencement of forestry works.
Clearing work	Keep away from machinery/forestry operations
Other work	In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Hiking
Location	Throughout the Forest of Dean
Instructor Qualification	Local knowledge, knowledge of navigation needed, In-house training.
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	All participants are encouraged to work together, help each other, share in mapping the route and enjoy the environment.
Main Priority Hazards	Getting lost; Slips trips falls. Falling down ditches.
Nearest Telephone	Mobile phones will be used
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Getting lost	Use only instructors with map-reading skills and local knowledge.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed
Dogs	Participants warned to neither approach nor run from dogs.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works.
Clearing work	Keep away from machinery/forestry operations
Other work	In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Team Building and Initiative Exercises
Location	Within the grounds and surrounds of Viney Hill, Mallards Pike and across the Forest of Dean (SN 654068 Viney Hill)
Instructor Qualification	In-house training.
Guidebook/Info.	N/A
Brief Description	Work together as teams to achieve the goals set for the specific exercises
Main Priority Hazards	Falling off equipment;
	Twisting ankles
	Abuse of equipment
Nearest Telephone	Viney Hill – Centre phone
	Mallards Pike – The Barracks *(NGR 633 093)
	Elsewhere in the Forest mobile phones will be used
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Falling off equipment	Safety helmets to be worn at all times when participants are more than 4ft above the ground. All equipment checked before starting exercise. Participants to work as a team.
Twisting Ankles	Suitable footwear to be worn.
Abuse of equipment	Participants instructed on respect of equipment and instructors to ensure correct behaviour throughout exercise.
Slippery wooden surfaces in the wet	Ensure correct footwear is used and the group made aware of the additional hazard.
Hair and jewellery may get caught in equipment, cracks etc.	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away, jewellery and watches must be removed before the session commences if deemed dangerous by the Instructor.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed
Dogs	Participants warned to neither approach nor run from dogs.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling Clearing work Other work	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works. Keep away from machinery/forestry operations In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Open Canoeing – Placid Water
Location	Mallards Pike (NGR 638 093)
Instructor Qualification	Minimum of Paddle Sports Instructor award with in-house training or UKCC Level 1 with in-house training and remote supervision under Level 2. UKCC Level 2 Proffered
Guidebook/Info.	N/A
Brief Description	Mallards Pike Lake is a large freshwater lake, with easy access both on and off the water with no more than 30m from the side at any point. The lake is normally sheltered from wind.
Main Priority Hazards	Risk of drowning; Canoe could be blown into the middle of the lake; Risk of hypothermia.
Nearest Telephone	Go ape/ Café Phone/ NGR 633 093. – The Barracks.
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Risk of drowning	All participants to wear an approved buoyancy aid before entering the water. The instructor must give a briefing on the capsize drill.
Risk of drowning	The instructor must be in a location where they can see the whole of the group and be within easy access of a kayak/canoe. Instructor must show good management skills in group control and to keep the canoes together.
Canoes being blown away from the shore into the middle of the lake	If possible launch the canoes on the windward side.
Group spreading out over the lake, instructor not fully aware where individuals are	On the initial briefing set a boundary to help maintain good control over the group as a whole.
Risk of hypothermia	Ensure that all participants are dressed appropriately for the current weather conditions. Avoid prolonged exposure in the water.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed
Dogs	Participants warned to neither approach nor run from dogs.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling Clearing work	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works. Keep away from machinery/forestry operations
Other work	In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance

Activity	Open Canoeing – Moving Water
Instructor Qualification	UKCC level 2 with knowledge of river (in appropriate conditions)
Location	The two <i>main</i> river trips that the centre offer are along the River Wye: 1. Ross on Wye (NGR 590 243) to Kerne Bridge (NGR 583 187) approx 8 miles 2. Kerne Bridge (NGR 583 187) to Lower Lydbrook (NGR 568 183) approx 3 miles;
Guidebook/Info.	Terry Storey, White water Guide; Canoeists guide to the river Wye, NRA.
Brief Description	Slow moving stretch of the river (grade 1), easy access both on and off the water. Much of the water is sheltered and therefore a popular stretch of the river to canoe. When the river is in spate we operate a no-go policy.
Main Priority Hazards	Risk of drowning; Risk of hypothermia Fast moving water River in flood
Nearest Telephone	Kerne Bridge (NGR 582 189) Lower Lydbrook (NGR 595 169)
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: The County Hospital, Stonebow Road, Hereford, HR2 2BN 01432 355444

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Risk of drowning	All participants to wear an approved buoyancy aid and helmet before entering the water. The instructor must give a briefing on the capsize drill. All participants must be able to swim 25m.
Risk of drowning	The instructor must be in a location where they can see the whole of the group and be within easy access of a kayak/canoe, a throw line should be carried.
Canoes/Participants being caught in trees	On initial briefing participants to be told to stay clear of trees.
Fisherman/fishing lines	On the initial briefing discuss what to do when fishermen are encountered.
Disturbing Swans	Swans are to be avoided especially where nests are involved.
Risk of hypothermia	Ensure that all participants are dressed appropriately for the current weather conditions. Avoid prolonged exposure in the water.
Fast moving water	Ensure good group management on the faster sections of water
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
River in Flood	Be aware of recent rainfall before a river trip is contemplated as the river may be in flood. Further guidance may be obtained from the environment agency website

Activity	Raft Building
Instructor Qualification	Minimum of Paddle Sports Instructor award with in-house training or UKCC Level 1 with in-house training and remote supervision under Level 2. UKCC Level 2 Proffered
Location	Placid Water - Mallards Pike Lane (NGR638 093)
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	Mallards Pike Lake is a large freshwater lake, with easy access both on and off the water. The lake is normally sheltered from wind.
Main Priority Hazards	Risk of drowning; Raft could be blown into the middle of the lake; Risk of hypothermia. Risk of entrapment between the participant and the raft.
Nearest Telephone	Go ape/ Café Phone/ NGR 633 093. – The Barracks.
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN
	0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Risk of drowning	All participants to wear an approved buoyancy aid and helmet before entering the water. The instructor must check the construction of the raft to make sure that participants cannot become trapped.
Risk of drowning	The instructor must be on the water in a kayak or canoe before the raft is launched.
Raft being blown away from the shore into the middle of the lake	If possible launch the raft on the windward side. If the instructor feels it appropriate to carry a towline they must do so.
Group spreading out over the lake, instructor not fully aware where individuals are	On the initial briefing set a boundary to help maintain good control over the group as a whole.
Risk of hypothermia	Ensure that all participants are dressed appropriately for the current weather conditions. Avoid prolonged exposure in the water.
Risk of entrapment	Instructor to brief the group about avoiding putting legs and arms between the barrels/wood/ropes. Instructor to carry a knife for this eventuality.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed
Dogs	Participants warned to neither approach nor run from dogs.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling Clearing work	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works. Keep away from machinery/forestry operations
Other work	 In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance

Activity	All Terrain Biking
Location	Within the Forest of Dean
Instructor Qualification	Any trail bike leader course (OTC, MIAS, MBLA etc.) knowledge of area.
Guidebook/Info.	N/A
Brief Description	Cycling on cycle paths and recognised off track routes to utilise the abilities of the specific group to the full
Main Priority Hazards	Falling off and losing control; Head injuries Traffic when using public roads Slippery/muddy paths Animals (dogs, sheep, deer etc.) Walkers, horse riders and other cyclists.
Nearest Telephone	Mobile phones to be used
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Falling off and losing control	All participants advised on correct use of gears and brakes, being aware of their surroundings and not riding beyond their capabilities. Speed of group set by leader.
Head injuries	Cycle helmets must be worn whilst cycling
Traffic when using public roads	Ensure adherence to Highway code and cycling no more than two abreast
Slippery/muddy paths	Warn of danger and slow speed to suit the surface
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed
Animals	Participants warned to neither approach nor run from animails.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling Clearing work Other work	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works. Keep away from machinery/forestry operations In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Archery
Location	Within the Centre grounds
Instructor Qualification	In-house trained or Archery GB instructor course with knowledge of our range.
Guidebook/Info.	N/A
Brief Description	The area set aside for archery is a quiet area of the Centre grounds which can easily be cordoned off for safety
Main Priority Hazards	Misdirected arrows
	People wandering on to target area
	Misuse of equipment
	Catching of bow string
Nearest Telephone	Centre phone
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Misdirected arrows	Instructor supervision at all times. All participants to only shoot when instructed by the instructor, and then only at target area. Arrows only to be unsheathed when
Misuliected allows	instructed.
Withdrawing arrows from	Instructor to ensure all shooting finished before allowing designated person to
targets	retrieve arrows
People wandering on to target	Area cordoned off and warning signs erected before beginning activity. A warning
area	notice shown at the path to archery and other residents warned in advance
Catching of bow string	All participants to be issued with arm Guard
Misuse of equipment	Participants warned of correct use of all equipment and warned that any abuse will
	lead to immediate suspension of the session.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.

Activity	Bridge Building
Location	Viney Hill SN 654068
Instructor Qualification	In-house training and Signed off by technical advisor or CWI / RCI or above
Guidebook/Info.	N/A
Brief Description	All participants to work together to build a bridge over a small quarry or shallow
M · D · · · ·	stretch of water.
Main Priority Hazards	Falling into quarry or water.
	Rope bridge collapsing.
	Falling objects
Nearest Telephone	Centre phone or Mobile phones if away from the Centre.
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE
	0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN
	0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Falling into quarry or water.	All participants to be warned of the dangers of slipping into the quarry or water. All participants to wear helmets and harnesses when crossing the bridge.
Rope bridge collapsing.	The instructor to secure a safety rope which all participants must be fixed to when crossing the bridge.
Equipment correctly fitted. Knot/Karabiner correctly attached.	Instructor to check each participant's harness and karabiner or knot (figure of eight knot with a stopper) are correctly attached.
Hair and jewellery may get caught in equipment.	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away, jewellery and etc, must be removed before the session commences.
Rope wiping up	All participant not on the bridge to be at least a meter away from the bridge when in use.
Objects falling	No one underneath the bridge when in use
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat these with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed
Dogs	Participants warned to neither approach nor run from dogs.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling	Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works.
Clearing work	Keep away from machinery/forestry operations
Other work	In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Low Ropes Course
Location	Grounds of the Centre. SN 654068
Instructor Qualification	In-house trained
Guidebook/Info.	N/A.
Brief Description	The course has been made by the Centre for groups to work together to cross the equipment safely and as a team.
Main Priority Hazards	Falling from the ropes. Rope burns.
	Could be slippery in wet conditions.
Nearest Telephone	Centre phone to be used.
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Falling from the ropes.	All participants to wear helmets when on course.
Too many people on one piece of the course at one time.	The instructor is to communicate with the group and manage the number of participants on each interval obstacle.
Rope burns from falling.	Ensure all participants are wearing sensible footwear with a good tread.
Slippery in the wet.	Participants warned of the dangers of using the course in the wet and allowing extra time for the activity to take place. spotting on certain obstacles is required especially in wet conditions.
Hair and jewellery may get caught in equipment, cracks etc.	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away, must be removed before the session commences if deemed dangerous by Instructor.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.

Activity	Mountain Walking
Location	All mountainous areas of Britain (summer Conditions only)
Instructor Qualification	ML to lead, ML Training in conjunction with ML leader in an agreed area
Guidebook/Further Information	OS Map
Brief Description	All participants are encouraged to work together, help each other, share in map and compass reading and enjoy and care for the mountain environment.
Main Priority Hazards	Mountain weather Ankle injuries due to wet, slippery or muddy paths. Exhaustion, Dehydration, Heat Stroke and Hypothermia
Nearest Telephone	Mobile phones will be used
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: The County Hospital, Stonebow Road, Hereford, HR2 2BN 01432 355444

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Getting lost	Qualified and trained staff.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Exhaustion	Route planned to suit abilities of group, regular food and drink breaks to be taken
Dehydration	Ensure regular and adequate fluids are taken whilst walking and before leaving
Heat Stroke	Correct clothing to be worn, sun screen to be used as appropriate
Hypothermia	Correct clothing to be worn, change of clothes to be taken if appropriate.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat other users with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed
Dogs	Participants warned to neither approach nor run from dogs.
Getting lost	A route plan of the area used is left with an appropriate person.

Activity	Crate Stack
Location	Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre SN 654068
Instructor Qualification	In-house training and Signed off by technical advisor or CWI / RCI or above
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	The Crate stack is a purpose built activity within the grounds of Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre. The purpose of this activity is to build a tower of crates with one or two individuals balancing on top of the completed structure.
Approach	The activity takes place just inside Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre on the right hand side
Main Priority Hazards	Vehicles coming in and out of the centre Participants falling on crates that have not knocked over Prevailing weather conditions Crates falling on participants at the bottom of the tower Incorrect belying
Nearest Telephone	Staff Office, Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Vehicles coming in and out of the centre	The area around the Crate Stack should be coned off allowing vehicles to go around the activity.
Participants falling from the crate stack.	 Ensure that all of the participants are tied onto the rope using a rewoven figure of eight or bowline (with effective stopper knot), this would go through both the chest harness and sit harness. Ensure that before lowering the participants all of the towers are knocked over and landing area is cleared of crates Ensure that the belay rope is kept tight at all times. Ensure that people passing the crates to the climbers stand well clear once they have passed a crate.
Slippery approach due to weather conditions	Ensure all participants are wearing sensible footwear with a good tread.
Objects falling	Ensure all climbers remove hard objects from pockets when climbing.
Equipment correctly fitted. Knot/Karabiner correctly attached.	Instructor to check each participant's harness and karabiner or knot (figure of eight knot with a stopper) are correctly attached.
Participants may not belay	Give thorough briefing on how to belay correctly.
correctly, potentially causing injury to the climber	Instructor supervision at all times during session.
Hair and jewellery may get caught in equipment, cracks etc.	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away, jewellery etc must be removed before the session commences.
Participants falling from the	Ensure that during the crate stack the crate pole is kept in a horizontal position when
crate stack onto the crate pole.	not being used to pass crates up.
Landing or tripping on crates	Landing area to be cleared before lowering, group warned about tripping on crates.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.

Activity	Bush craft and Shelter Building
Location	Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre SN 654068 and in the woodlands within a 4 Km radius of the Centre, Viney Hill.
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	Bush craft introduces the participants on what to eat, how to find water, how to build a shelter, and how to make a fire. Its main function is for the group to discover more about our natural environment, and to understand how we can interact with it and sustain it. Suitable for all ages and abilities. More advanced sessions are available on special request.
Approach	The activity takes place just inside Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre on the wild campsite and in the local woods
Main Priority Hazards	Slippery nature of the woodland environment, especially after heavy rain Participants falling into the fire Participants not being 'fire aware' Shelters falling Injury from sticks being waved around/moved or broken.
Nearest Telephone	Staff Office, Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Slippery nature of the Forest environment	Ensure that all participants wear appropriate footwear with good tread. When approaching steep ground inform the group of the best way to ascend/descend, get the group to help each other out.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Getting burnt from the fire	 Ensure that all participants with long hair have it tied back so it is well away from the fire. Ensure that when participants are around the fire they are sitting or kneeling and that they are not bending over the fire. Ensure that participants are not wearing shell suit type clothing as this is highly flammable. Ensure that there is a bucket of water next to the fire to deal with people falling
	in/
Improper use of the fire steels	Give a good briefing on the correct use of the fire steels ensure that all participants are kneeling over the fire steel before striking it.
Shelter falling/ Injury from sticks being waved around/moved or broken.	Supervision at all time by instructor/adult to ensure behaviour is controlled and safety briefing given about consideration to moving and building shelter s from natural materials.
Hair and jewellery may get caught in branches	People with long hair must have it tied back and tucked away, jewellery and watches etc must be removed before the session commences.
The shelter may fall on participants once inside.	Ensure that the shelter is of a sturdy construction before the participants go inside the shelter.
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling Clearing work Other work	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works. Keep away from machinery/forestry operations In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.

Activity	Tunnels
Location	Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre SN 654068
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	Participants to navigate an artificial cave system
Approach	N/A
Main Priority Hazards	Drops within the tunnel system Banging heads on tunnels Friction grazes Blinding lights Psychological fear Participants leaving the cave and wandering off.
Nearest Telephone	Staff Office, Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Abrasions from contact with tunnels, hatches, edges etc	 Participants are recommended to wear long sleeves and long trousers to protect the body from direct contact with tunnels and any grit etc in them. Don't let participants enter/lower down through the hatches in the chambers.
Falling out of a tunnel on to junction room floor, causing injury. Difficulty getting into a small diameter tunnel	 Safety Brief Given about obstacles and what to expect. Maximum height from a tunnel to the floor is 75cm. With care most participants can negotiate this size of drop. For less able participants including the very young, it is appropriate for someone to spot/assist the extraction from a tunnel into a junction room. Often it will be appropriate to make this a peer responsibility to the person behind you.
'Emotionally stuck' participant	Most people who are emotionally prepared to enter the tunnel system are likely to be able to reach the next junction room and with some encouragement are able to go back the way they have come to exit the system if necessary.
Wandering off	 Safety brief about where to go/not go Supervision of participants by instructor/ adult.
Bumping into parts of the tunnel system or other people in a dark environment	 Varying degrees of lighting are possible ranging from providing torch light and having all the access points open during daylight hours, to going through the tunnels with no artificial light at night-time with access points closed. Diminished lighting is in direct correlation to this aspect of risk but can also be used as an integral aspect of the activity.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.

Activity	Nightline (Geocache + Individual Session)
Location	Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre SN 654068 or within woods 3KM radious of the centre
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	Participants to follow a set out rope course blindfolded feeling their way around obstacles.
Approach	Muddy terrain in wet conditions
Main Priority Hazards	Banging heads/ body on obstacles
	Uneven ground underfoot
	Traffic from car park (geocache only)
Nearest Telephone	Staff Office, Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Hitting objects	 Safety Brief Given about obstacles and what to expect. Supervision of participants by instructor/ adult. Participants are recommended to wear long sleeves and long trousers to protect the body.
'Emotionally stuck' participant	 Most people who are emotionally prepared to enter the tunnel system are likely to be able to reach the next junction room and with some encouragement are able to go back the way they have come to exit the system if necessary.
Slips, trip and falls	Adequate footwear to be worn, with good tread. Shoe fastened correctly.
Extreme weather	All participants to dress appropriately to the current weather conditions.
Meeting walkers, horse riders and mountain bikers	Participants advised to treat other users with respect and if necessary to step from path until passed
Forest Operations such as: Tree felling Clearing work Other work	 Recce Forest locations in advance and take note of relevant signage and commencement of forestry works. Keep away from machinery/forestry operations In doubt call the Forestry Commission for help/guidance
Wild Boar	See separate Risk Assessment for Wild Boar

Activity	Cross Meadow Campsite (overnight stays)
Location	Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre SN 654068
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	VHCAC campsite is a purpose-built facility which includes camping for 72 people in canvas and wooden style tents. There are separate toilet and shower facilities for group leaders.
	Within the campsite building there is a fully functioning commercial kitchen with a separate lounge and dining room.
Approach	The campsite is situated to the back of The Old Vicarage within the grounds of Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre
Main Priority Hazards	Fire
	Unsecured rear access to the campsite
Nearest Telephone	Staff Office, Viney Hill Christian Adventure Centre
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722
	Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Tents	
Running between the tents	Participants will need to be reminded that there is no running between the tents due to the guidelines and pegs causing a trip hazard.
Smoking within tents	There is no smoking in the tents, failure to comply will result in your eviction from the site.
Cooking within the tents/candles etc.	There is no cooking within the tents (with or without flame) No candles are allowed or any combustible material whatsoever.
Toilet arrangements	Use the facilities
Site security	The bottom gate must always be closed to keep out wild animals and people. (leaders will have the combination for the collection of firewood etc.)
Waste water and washing up	Use the provided facilities
Site hygiene and personal cleanliness	Group leaders to be briefed on waste disposal and personal hygiene of the group
Fire pit area	Bucket of water will be within the fire pit circle. Groups to be briefed on the size of the fire. No running within the fire circle
Exposure to elements	Students/staff to be briefed on hazardous weather condition such as storms, high winds and electrical storms. It may become necessary to adapt camping plans accordingly

Animals around the site	Good camp hygiene. Leftover food to be disposed of properly, washing up to be completed soon after meal times
Night time routine	Students/participants to remain in their own tents during the night

Activity	Coming across Wild Boar on activities in the Forest of Dean
Location	Forest of Dean
Guidebook/Further Information	N/A
Brief Description	In the Forest of Dean we do use the woodland for various peaceful activities and as such we could come across Wild Boar
Main Priority Hazards	Injury
Nearest Telephone	Instructor mobile
Nearest Hospital	Minor injuries: Lydney Casualty Department, Grove Road, Lydney GL15 5JE 0300 4218722 Major injuries: Gloucester Royal Hospital, Great Western Road, Glos, GL1 3NN 0300 4222222

Hazard	Measure to Reduce The Hazard
Persons attacked by a wild boar	 Measure to Reduce The Hazard Wild boar sightings are becoming more common in the Forest but are still rare and special occasions. Wild boar are normally secretive and nocturnal if they are not interfered with and there are very few documented cases of boar attacking people in Europe or elsewhere. If you do see wild boar we suggest you take the following advice: If you see wild boar, do not approach them; if possible leave the area by the same route you approached by, or make a detour giving the animals a wide berth. Avoid areas of dense undergrowth or thick cover that sows favour as resting and breeding places. A disturbed sow may adopt a face on, rigid stance and snort, this is defensive threat behaviour and the best action is to back off.