



How OYCI Calculates Risk

RISK RATINGS:

Likelihood (probability)

- 5 Almost certain
- 4 Probable
- 3 Possible
- 2 Possible (under unfortunate circumstances)
- 1 Rare

Severity (Consequences)

- 5 Fatality
- 4 Major injury, resulting in permanent damage
- 3 Injury requiring hospital or doctor attendance
- 2 Minor injury requiring first aid
- 1 No damage, injury

RISK RATING Likelihood x Severity

Score 1-9 = LOW Score 10 - 15 = MEDIUM Score 16-25 = HIGH

Please note: youth work is a dynamic and unpredictable environment and therefore all risks cannot be identified in advance. As situations or environments change, risks fluctuate. Despite our comprehensive pre-planned risk assessments, workers always need to be able to undertake dynamic risk assessments as an immediate response to evolving circumstances. Our priority is the safety and wellbeing of the young people in our care.

This risk assessment should be read in conjunction with the 'Taking Part in Activity' risk assessment which ALWAYS applies. N.B. for Forest School sessions additional risk assessments apply.

Outdoor Activity

Reviewed and updated 22 April 2025

Risk 1: - Injury from slips, trips, falls during activity due to outdoor weather, surfaces and time of year (visibility) - young people/staff/others.

RISK RATING 4 x 5 = 20/HIGH

MITIGATIONS: Appropriate activities planned, taking into account weather conditions and outdoor surfaces (e.g. wet grass, hard concrete). Discussion with young people prior to session about taking extra care when moving around outside. Trained first aiders and first aid kit at session to deal with any minor injuries. Appropriate number of trained staff at any outdoors provision. See our child protection policy for more details: Fully charged mobile phone at all times in case need to contact medical services.

RISK RATING 3 x 5 = 15/MEDIUM

Risk 2: putting up/taking down outdoor equipment (tents, tarps etc), minor injury or damage to young people/staff/others or outdoor equipment.

RISK RATING 3 x 2 = 6/LOW

MITIGATIONS: Equipment is put up by capable/trained staff member, following instructions. Tent site is appropriate for requirements. Enough staff present to put up/take down tent safely. Trained first aiders and first aid kit at session to deal with any minor injuries. Fully charged mobile phone at all times in case need to contact medical services.

RISK RATING 1 x 2 = 2/LOW

Risk 3: Guy ropes and other trip hazards, re - young people/staff/others

RISK RATING 2 x 5 = 10/MEDIUM

MITIGATIONS: Equipment will be sited appropriately so as to minimise risk. High vis tape/ribbon will be added to guy ropes that are easy to miss/ camouflage. YP will be briefed re tripping hazard/injury hazard. Staff will be vigilant of YP's location at all times. Trained first aiders and first aid kit at session to deal with any minor injuries. Fully charged mobile phone at all times in case need to contact medical services. **RISK RATING 1 X 5 = 5/LOW**

Risk 4: weather conditions affecting participation - hayfever/allergies, sunburn, insect bites, cold/wet, windy - young people/staff/others

RISK RATING 2 x 5 = 10/MEDIUM

MITIGATIONS: Weather forecasts will be monitored and participants advised to dress appropriately for the season/weather. Spare clothing will be available for YP dressed inappropriately. Any allergies or medical conditions that could be affected by the weather e.g. hayfever will be known to staff from YP's registration information. Trained first aiders and first aid kit at session to deal with any minor injuries. From YP's registration information, YP will be reminded to bring/take their medication e.g inhaler, hay fever

tablets. Fully charged mobile phone at all times in case need to contact medical services. Adhere to OYCI weather policy for guidance on when an outdoor session may need to be cancelled due to the weather.

RISK RATING 1 X 5 = 5/LOW

Risk 5: hazard from dog poo in public area causing infection (toxocara canis) - young people/staff/others **RISK RATING 2 x 5 = 10/MEDIUM**

MITIGATIONS: Staff will check the area as part of the preparation for the outdoor session. Any dog poo found will be safely removed by staff wearing PPE (gloves) using dog poo bags and deposited in a dog poo bin. Staff will remove PPE, dispose of safely and wash/sanitise hands. **RISK RATING 1 X 5 = 5/LOW**

Risk 6: hazard from broken glass, stones, sticks/wood, cans in public area causing injury - young people/staff/others **RISK RATING 2 x 4 = 8/LOW**

MITIGATIONS: Staff will check the area as part of the preparation for the outdoor session. Any items such as glass, sharp stones/sticks, cans that may cause a potential injury will be safely removed by staff wearing PPE using litter pickers. Sharp items will be disposed of safely as possible. All used PPE will be disposed of and hands sanitised. For a litter picking activity, ensure we have a container to dispose of sharp items. **RISK RATING 1 X 4 = 4/LOW**

Risk 7: severe weather conditions affecting participation - young people/staff/others **RISK RATING 3 x 3 = 9/LOW**

MITIGATIONS: Staff will adhere to OYCI weather policy (link) for guidance on when an outdoor session may need to be cancelled due to the weather. Weather forecasts will be monitored and in the case of amber or red weather warning the outdoor session will be cancelled. Yellow warnings may necessitate cancellation depending on the nature of the activity. Dynamic risk assessment undertaken during a session if weather changes significantly. If a session is cancelled participants will be advised of this and the session will be postponed. If a session has to be halted due to a change in the weather, YP will be moved to a safe pick up point, parents/carers will be informed and staff will remain with the YP until they are collected. **RISK RATING 2 X 3 = 6/LOW**