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|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------|
| Name of activity, event, and location | Using Knives                               | Date of risk assessment | 07/09/2022                            | Name of person doing this risk assessment | Chris Wood |
|                                       | 12th South West Cheshire Shavington Scouts | Date of next review     | 06/09/2023, or earlier as appropriate |   |            |

| What hazard have you identified?<br>What are the risks from it?   | Who is at risk?                                       | How are the risks already controlled?<br>What extra controls are needed?   | What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?   |
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| <p><b>A hazard</b> is something that may cause harm or damage.</p> <p><b>The risk</b> is the harm that may occur from the hazard.</p> | For example: young people, adult volunteers, visitors | <p><b>Controls</b> are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk.</p> <p>For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the activity.</p>   | <p>Keep <b>checking</b> throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even <b>stop</b> the activity.</p> <p>This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.</p> |
| Behaviour - Risk of over excitement   | All Present   | <p>Everyone to follow section code of conduct that sets clear expectations and behaviour standards.</p> <p>Stress the importance of being responsible when using sharp tools.</p> <p><b>STOP</b> the activity immediately if behaviour is unsuitable.</p>  |   |
| Emergency aid.  | All Present   | <p>Make sure a qualified first aider is present throughout the activity.</p> <p>Make sure a first aid kit is on site during the activity.</p>  |   |
| <b>Cuts</b> – from sharing or moving tools  | All Present   | <p>Explain how to take a knife out of its sheath safely while keeping your fingers away from the blade.</p> <p>Carry the blade properly: it should be in your hand with your arm by your side, and your fingers should be out of the way.</p> <p>Mask/sleeve the blade before it is carried.</p> |   |

You can find more information in the Safety checklist for leaders and at [scouts.org.uk/safety](https://scouts.org.uk/safety)

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|   |             | If the knife needs to be passed to someone else, stand side by side facing the same direction. Pass the knife correctly, and always in its sheath/sleeve.   |  |
| <b>Rough wood</b> – risk of splinters or blisters from handling               | All Present | Tell people to take care when cutting or snapping wood.<br><br>Wear strong gloves if you available, though bear in mind that gloves may affect grip.  |  |
| <b>Knife work</b> – multiple risks  | All Present | Leader/instructor to practice own knife skills before beginning any practical sessions with the Scouts.<br><br>Explain knife law and safety before beginning<br><br>Give young people information and training before they use sharp items.<br><br>Supervise young people closely while they use sharp items. Continue to assess their competence. Have one adult or young leader for each group – consider the ratio depending on age and behaviour.<br><br>Count out the sharp items and be clear on how many are being used. Count them back in to make sure they're all returned.<br><br>Mask items (cover the blade) and store them safely between uses.<br><br>Scouts will be sat on chairs or benches that are spaced out or kneeling – not using knives whilst stood. |  |
| <b>Struck by sharp tool</b> – risk of injury to non-participants or observers | All Present | Create a safe cutting area; check guidance for safe size and distances.<br><br>Don't wear neckers or any loose clothing or jewellery and tie back long hair to prevent knives from getting caught.  |  |

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|  |  | <p>Cover the blade when you're not using it.</p> <p>Inspect the tools before use.</p> <p>Never use it if the head and handle don't line up or if the head is loose.</p> <p>Don't use a blunt blade.</p> <p>Don't use a blade in poor light.</p> |  |
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