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Bushcraft/ Wilderness Skills

INTRODUCTION

Bushcraft and wilderness skills allows learners to venture out and explore the natural environment, it promotes environmental awareness and teaches new skills.

These procedures cover bushcraft in the centre grounds or at other venues. It includes firecraft, the use of stoves and Kelly Kettles, shelter building, the use tools such as axe(s), foraging and water sourcing. It could be used as part of a journey or as an individual activity.

VENUE

Any suitable location this is to be agreed with Head of Centre or Instructor in Charge.

STAFFING

- Ratio: The normal instructor/student ratio.
- Staff should be suitably trained and experienced for the aspects of the activity to be undertaken.

EQUIPMENT

- Steel and flint, matches, kindling.
- Stoves and/or Kelly Kettle, appropriate fuel carried in a suitable container.
- String and/or rope
- Knife and/ or axe(s)
- Collection vessels for water collection or foraged food

OPERATING CONSIDERATIONS

- Thorough briefing to be given to all students
- Suitable location, ensure fire will remain contained and controllable
- Ensure adequate supervision when lighting, maintaining and extinguishing fire
- Ensure suitable means is available for extinguishing fire.
- Ensure suitable water supply is available
- Leave minimum footprint
- Considerations given to environmental factors, i.e. do not collect wood from live trees
- Ensure any made structures are stable before students enter
- Ensure adequate supervision when using tools
- Ensure identification of any foraged food before consumption