

Embercombe Risk Assessment

Green woodworking

Description of main hazards and hazardous events:

The tools used for green woodworking have sharp edges. Cutting injury can occur if the tools are not used correctly. The risk level of the cutting injury is increased when the tools are not used correctly. In most cases, a cutting injury may lead to a minor injury though there is the potential for a greater injury.

The risk level is increased if the working space is too crowded or badly organised. People walking around pose a risk to themselves and to others.

The equipment for green woodworking is heavy and there may be muscular injuries when moving this about.

The green woodworking area is situated in the woodland and in wet weather the ground can become slippery.

There is no mobile phone reception in the green woodworking area so emergency response time may be increased.

Persons exposed: Employees Volunteers Clients / Public
Contractors Vulnerable groups

Existing controls:

A specific safety talk is given before beginning green woodworking. The activity has a high supervision ratio. Tools are well maintained and well sharpened. Where possible edges are covered for transport. The green woodworking area has been specifically designed for the purpose. When the activity is taking place movement around the area is minimised. Equipment is moved around as little as possible.

Land drains have been installed to control the flow of surface water in the area.

Radios are used to communicate with others. There is a first aid kit and first aiders on the site.

Guidelines on ratios*

Ages 6 - 9 = 1/2 (If the work is particularly dangerous the children should take it in turns)

Ages 10 - 13 = 1/2

Ages 13 - 17 = 1/4

Adults = 1/8


*Ratios may be increased for vulnerable groups

Are there any further controls recommended?

The shave horses are functional but could do with renewal.

Summary of Safety Advice

**This activity needs a high level of supervision
Tools need to be inspected and well maintained
Green Woodworkers need to focus on the task
Radios should be used**

Other risk assessments you should read; General Site	
Assessment by: Rob Kendall	Job title: Site Manager
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