

Kenelm Youth Trust Activity Risk Assessment – Mangonel

The Mangonel activity involves the building of one or two catapults built from rope and plastic poles to fire sponges.

Hazards	Who is affected	Likelihood	Severity	Risk Control Measure	Further Risk Control Measure / Actions	Residual Risk
Entrapment of fingers between ropes and poles	Participants, Staff, Visiting Teachers	Likely	Slight harm	Safety briefing and demonstration Full supervision of group.		Low
Impact injury due to being struck by firing pole	Participants, Staff, Visiting Teachers	Likely	Harmful	Safety briefing and demonstration of firing a sponge. This is to include ensuring that the “loader” is clear of the firing catapult. The loader is to firstly load the sponge and then to fire. Leader to ensure all participants are clear of the firing catapult.	Full supervision of group and to stop the activity if participants are not listening to instruction.	Low
Impact injury due to being struck by a swinging pole or falling structure	Participants, Staff, Visiting Teachers	Likely	Slight Harm	Safety briefing and demonstration. Poles are carried one person at each end. Four participants to hold structure as it is being fired. Clear demonstration of square lashings to ensure that structure is tied together safely.	Full supervision of group and to stop the activity if participants are not listening to instruction.	Low
Minor injuries, cuts, grazes, etc.	Participants, Staff, Visiting Teachers	Likely	Slight Harm	Activity Leaders are First Aid qualified and carry a first aid kit.	Pre-use check of the condition of the plastic poles and ropes.	Low



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Climatic Injury	Participants, Staff, Visiting Teachers	Likely	Harmful	Participants briefed to dress appropriately for the weather conditions.	Activity Leaders can halt the activity if weather too hot to continue. Move group to warm or shade. Water to be on hand.	Low
Slips/Trips	Participants, Staff, Visiting Teachers	Likely	Slight Harm	Activity is conducted on grassed area.	Ground and weather conditions to be monitored to avoid slipping.	Low
Snow/Ice Frozen conditions	Participants, Staff, Visiting Teachers	Highly Likely in Winter months	Harmful	Activity not to be used in icy conditions/dynamic risk assessment of conditions.		Low
Lightning Strike	Participants, Staff, Visiting Teachers	Highly Unlikely	Harmful/Fatal	Use "flash to bang principle" https://www.rospa.com/leisure-safety/advice/lightning.aspx	Mangonel not to be used during lightning storm.	High



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- 1 signed off activity leader to 16 participants.

Risk assessment conducted by:	Signature:	Date:	Approved by:	Signature:	Next scheduled review date:
Richard Moore		Dec 2023	Sandra Satchell		April 2024



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