

Risk Assessment for Activity Sessions at Kent Mountain Centre

Risk assessment takes place in three stages.
Relevant site specific information is also considered.

General Risk Assessment

- Each risk assessment is for one of our activities, conducted according to KMC Activity Guidelines for staffing procedures and equipment.
- Activity Guidelines are followed with respect to instructor qualifications, group size equipment and so on.
- We call this a general risk assessment.
- These risk assessments are reviewed every year, or updated as necessary in the light of accidents, near misses and new information.

Specific Risk Assessment

- On the morning of the activity, at the morning meeting, any new or specific risks that are highlighted are considered and discussed, as appropriate.
 - Relevant site specific information is shared and discussed at staff meetings.
 - Where necessary, changes in procedure are decided upon and implemented.

The specific information needed is often available before the group arrives, confirmed at the start of the course, and during the running of the visit.

This information includes:

- Aims of the session
- Age of students
- Relevant experience of students
- Number in group
- Health of participants
- How well participants have been sleeping and eating
- Fitness / injury problems of participants
- Special needs of participants
- Behavioural considerations
- Relevant experience of visiting staff and / or other assistants

- The general risk assessment is adapted in the light of specific information, and the plan for the session is made accordingly.
 - Weather forecast
 - Conditions (eg ice, snow, flooding)

Ongoing Risk Assessment

- Instructors are trained to be alert to changing conditions and to the reactions of individuals and the group.
- They are prepared to adapt or curtail the session if necessary as a result of their ongoing risk assessment.

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