Lindley Educational Trust Hollowford Centre	**Risk Assessment** **Axe Throwing**	Current as of January 2026 By Paul Booker Review date by 31 January 2027

Benefit Statement	An enjoyable and rewarding sport. People are taught skills and can demonstrate their learning. There is a great sense of achievement in hitting the target and refining your skills.

HAZARD	RISK	CONTROL MEASURE	FURTHER ACTION REQURED	RESPONSIBILITY / DUE & COMPLETED DATES
General	Various injuries	Code of Practice applies Suitably qualified / experienced instructor (includes First Aid) Clear briefings & supervision All accidents, near misses and incidents are recorded and appropriate action undertaken as required. Safety reviewed in staff meetings. Seek & share information with similar providers	No further action at this stage	
For every session there will be a dynamic risk assessment on arrival and will be on going throughout the activity session				
Extreme Weather	Sunburn Hypothermia Hyperthermia	Instructor to check weather forecast prior to activity & observe conditions throughout. If necessary change plans & move to safety. Ensure participants have suitable & adequate clothing plus access to warm (or cold) drinks Remind visiting staff & young people about sun protection.	No further action at this stage	
Equipment Damage (sharp burrs) broken axe shaft.	Various injuries	All equipment checked prior to use. Regular checks, maintenance & renewal schedule Any damaged axes are to be removed from service for repair / replacement	No further action at this stage	
Participants	Various	Participants asked to share relevant previous & existing medical issues. Visiting group leaders asked any other (eg behavioural) issues Staff ratios (group size) amended as required	No further action at this stage	
Axe being released towards others in group	Serious injury	Clearly defined area for axe throwing. Limited number of people at the throwing line Clear briefing and observation by suitably experienced instructor	No further action at this stage	
Running into an axe	Injury to person – puncture wound	Briefed on walking everywhere, collect axes from targets before those on the floor.	No further action at this stage	
Rebounding axes	Various injuries	Throwing line to be an appropriate distance from the target, minimum 3m.	No further action at this stage	

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Misfire (Arrow falling / landing close to firing line)	Various injuries	Group briefed to leave arrow where it is until all participants have been told it is safe to collect their arrows 32” arrows used to prevent overdrawing	No further action at this stage	
Removing axes from target	Injury to other person	Briefed on how to retrieve axes Be especially careful with younger groups Limit collection to those who have been shooting	No further action at this stage	
Holding axes unsafely when walking back or handing them to the next thrower	Falling onto axes	Group briefed on appropriate way to walk with axes and how to pass them on.	No further action at this stage	
Other persons not involved in activity walking onto the throwing area	Being hit by an axe	Instructor awareness of other activities occurring (orienteering) Overthrow area where no activity takes place. Back stop	No further action at this stage	