

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

DRY SLOPE SLEDGING

STANDARD
OPERATING
PROCEDURES

April 2026

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES: Dry Slope Sledging

Definition and Scope of Activities

The Activities covered within this section are as follows:

- SLEDGING (Ancrum Outdoor Centre Dry slope)

PRECAUTIONS TO MINIMISE HAZARDS

It is essential that the Standard Operating Procedures are followed and that personnel leading the Group fully brief the group to pay attention to hazard warning information, remain in control of the activity and follow accredited tuition stated below use a progressive approach

SEASONAL CONSTRAINTS

Activity can take place all year round, significant snow or ice may affect the ability to operate.

LOCATION CONSTRAINTS

No ski or snowboard activity to take place while sledging. Slope should be clear of significant snow and / or ice (snow below the level of the matting)

TUITION RATIOS

The maximum number of sledges sliding down the slope should not exceed 2 at any one time. A guide is for a maximum of 4 sledges to be available to participants.

Consider where non-participants are to stand while not sliding to minimise risk of collisions.

Participants requiring increased leader supervision or possessing certain disabilities may require additional staffing or reduced participant ratios.

A second adult should be present at the group location with participants under 18 years of age.

TUITION LEADER QUALIFICATIONS

An In-House induction is required to operate.

The induction will cover:

- 1, Inspection of site and equipment
2. Safe equipping of participants
3. Location on spectating / non-participants
4. Introductory Activities / Progressive session
5. A first Aid holder must be on-site while activity is taking place
6. Leader must be 18 years or older and hold a leadership award or have been observed delivering a safe session by the TA.

Technical Adviser to lead induction.

EQUIPMENT – PARTICIPANTS

Participants must be adequately equipped for the activity and location in use. Helmets, gloves or mitts, shoes, long sleeve tops and full-length trousers required for sledging.

The equipment must be well maintained and serviced.

All participants must wear helmets while sledging

RISK ASSESSMENT

ASSESSMENT REF NO: Sledge 1

Activity: Sledging (Ancrum OEC Dry Slope)				Location: Ancrum OE Centre Dry Slope				Assessor: LJ Date: April 2025				
Hazard	Who might be harmed?			Existing controls What makes the hazard less risky? What makes these controls effective?	Risk			Further actions Avoid Control at source Take advantage of technology Protect all Make what you have more effective	Target date dd-mm-yy	Responsibility	Completion Date	New Residual Risk
	Public	Client	Leader		Probability	Severity	Rating					
Collision with other participants		x	x	Leader to control the setting off and ascent of the slope while in use.	1	2	2	None				
Slips / trips resulting in a fall and Injuries from slip trip		x	x	Venue should be such that a trip or slip would not result in a down hill slide. Sledging venues should have adequate and safe 'run outs' Boots should be provided to give ankle support. Helmets to be worn while sledging	1	5	5	None				
Injuries from equipment		x	x	Robust safety brief. Leader observation and good group control. Correct equipment for the task	2	3	6	None				
Excessive speed / crash		x	x	Progressive sessions, assess each slope on the day and complete dynamic risk / benefit analysis.	2	4	8	None				

Further actions approved by:	Signature:	Date:
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Urgency of Action = (20+ Very High) (16-20 High) (9-15 Moderate) (4-8 Low) (1-3 Very Low)

Severity = 1. Damage 2. Minor Injury 3. +3 Days/Hospitalised 4. Major Injury/Permanent Disability 5. Fatality

Probability = 1. Very Unlikely 2. Unlikely 3. Fairly Likely 4. Likely 5. Very Likely

Review Date: April 2027