

CAMPFIRE PROCEDURE

Equipment to Bring



We recommend you bring a lighter, paper/kindle for starting fire, small-sized logs, a long prong and torch (we do have emergency lanterns).

Do not bring any timber that has staples, screws or nails or other metal or sharp components.

Logs and Resources at Chellington and Nearby

- The local Carlton Shop usually has logs and kindle (telephone: 01234 721124).
- Alternatively, you can pre-order a Kindle & Fire Wood Pack from us – see www.chellington.org/booking and select **Extras** or call us to order on 01234 720726.

Planning and Safety Considerations

- Group Leaders should, in conjunction with Chellington Risk Assessment document (available from our website or on request in writing) undertake a practical assessment of suitability and the local conditions before commencement and *during* this activity, for instance, this activity should not be undertaken in high/volatile wind or if the weather conditions change (and could compromise safety), the activity is stopped and 'End of Session' procedure is followed.
- It is highly recommended you assess, prepare your campfire before dark.
- The Group Leader should ensure a competent person always manages the fire and campfire area.
- Check surrounding area for trip hazards/combustibles and remove/ minimize risk if found.
- **To prevent excess of smoke: start small, use very dry kindle and keep fire compact, hot and well-managed, burn only what fuel you need, ideally, burn to nothing at finish.**
- **All outside doors and windows to the centre should be closed during this activity. If the wind is directing to the Garden Entrance door, lock it and use the Main door only.**
- Where to put your logs/kindle: please use the trimmed area between the tall pine trees near to the campfire circle. Do not leave on the grass, near the building or inside the seated circle.
- **A bucket of water should be placed next to the camp fire area.**
- Any participants with particular needs (including emotional/behavioural challenges) or health conditions (Asthmatic etc) need to be closely monitored during the activity and if necessary, not go ahead with the activity or adjust the Procedure (ie: assign an adult specifically for their care).



CAMPFIRE PROCEDURE (CONT.D)

Safety Talk

Camp fires are a lot of fun and are great for team building, however there are risks associated with this activity, and group leaders should explain *before the participants come near the campfire*, the following safety rules:

- If the group leader shouts “STOP” then you must stop what you are doing immediately and await further instruction.
- Do not approach the fire unless permission has been given by group leader
- Remain seated whenever possible, move away if smoke is a problem
- No running, approach the camp circle with caution
- Do not throw anything into the fire in case it bounces out/hits someone
- Do not push anyone near the fire (or even pretend to)
- Do not kick or prod the fire

Supervision/Managing the Campfire

- The campfire should be kept small and compact and not be taller than the distance between the participants and the campfire circle (in case it falls). In any case it should not exceed 1m high by 1m across. Leaders should be alert for signs of the campfire becoming unstable and take appropriate action.
- Burn only what fuel you need, ideally, burned to nothing at the planned end of your session.
- There are different distances Please do not move the seating outside of the circle, it is heavy and not designed to be moved.
- Participants should be wearing closed toe shoes.
- Participants should not wear excessively loose/ tasselled or synthetic clothing.
- Firelighters: if using follow the manufacturer’s instructions with care and quantity used kept to a minimum. Hands should be washed after handling. Store in your vehicle, not in the Centre
- There should be at least one adult present at all time the fire is lit
- A ratio of 1 competent person for every 10 participants during the activity to a maximum of 30

End of Session

- Please ensure you have time to end the session fully before your agreed exit time. Do not add too much fuel that you will not be able to burn.
- The campfire should be carefully closed-down by the group leader after the participants have been moved away from the camp fire circle
- The ashes and any small amount of un-burnt logs can be turned out carefully can be spread towards the outside edge of the fire circle (but within the granite sets) with a large stick, water should be gently sprinkled with water on the fire to reduce the temperature to help reduce the temperature and prevent re-ignition
- Ensure the fire is completely out and the ashes are cool before it is left unattended.
- Remove any detritus removed from area and ensure any unused firewood is between pine trees

**If the campfire and campfire areas are not left as found or agreed,
we reserve the right to make what could be a significant re-set charge to the User**