

# Helping others get back into the great outdoors.

**Guidance for reopening our campsites and activities centres to the public and third parties**

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# Welcome

This guidance will help you make sure your buildings and facilities are safe when returning to face-to-face meetings and activities. If in doubt about any aspect, please seek the advice of a professional. More Scout guidance is available [here](#).

This guidance should read in conjunction with The Scouts' Framework, which explains the overall process.

Guidance on reopening commercial campsites can be found [here](#).

## Background

Many campsites and activity centres work with (or wish to work with) third parties such as schools, other youth organisations and members of the public. In all the examples above, and others not listed, there will be different guidance relevant to the organisation or for public use. However all of these will be consistent with the overarching COVID-secure approach.

This guidance therefore cannot be exhaustive but aims to signpost advice, and pose questions to help you make an informed decision on how and to whom you may open your site and facilities.

## Things to think about

When planning for reopening for third party/public use, you'll need to consider and balance the following factors as we pass through each level of the National Youth Agency (NYA) scale and the updating of other guidance relevant to the third party you are working with or public access. In all cases you should check that you are insured for the activity you are undertaking and that you aren't breaching local planning restrictions or operating outside the scope of The Scout Association's exception certificate for campsite licensing.

- Can you reopen safely?
  - What's the capacity of your site (physical space, toilet provision, hand washing facilities) when operating within the restrictions at each level and considering the expectations of different user groups?
  - Can the roads and car parks cope with the potential increase in traffic?
  - Can you keep volunteers and staff involved in the running of the centre safe?
- What you can offer at each level of the scale?
  - Which activities and services can you offer in line with government guidance and/or social distancing restrictions at each level or are you just offering space?
  - Can you provide enough qualified people to run them if required?
- Can you operate adventurous activity in line with the relevant external advice?
- What's the PR benefit of being open?
  - Does the change in activity create a negative impact on neighbours or locals in the surrounding area?
  - How would someone external seeing the activity happening perceive this considering the guidance currently in force?
- What are the financial implications of opening vs staying closed at each level?
- Under the track and trace guidance you have a duty to keep at least the contact details for the party leader of each visiting group for 21 days but also a responsibility to keep a log of who was working when and what time including any significant contact they had with any groups or individuals
- **Running Adventurous Activities**

With all activities you should not plan to break social distancing requirements in the normal operation of the activity. In an emergency situation (such as giving first aid or performing a rescue) of course you will need to break the social distancing requirements. Consideration should be given on how to keep everyone as safe as possible whilst balancing the need to respond to the situation. This does mean that for some activities you will need to wait until restrictions ease, and for others limit the participation and the way of delivering the session to ensure that social distancing is adhered to. Key considerations:

  - In planning on how to deliver the activity can the instructor and all participant always comply with the current social distancing requirements?

- · Is the need to rescue a likely occurrence – if yes then you will need to wait until restrictions ease?
- · When planning the activity consider where, under normal circumstances, the instructor would be within 2 metres. Can this be avoided by changing the process, restricting the age or height of participants, limiting participation to those with previous experience, etc?
- · What will the quality of the activity be for the participant where there might be limitations on ability to coach or progress due to changes in the way you'd deliver the activity?

It's not possible to provide a definitive list of which activities would be suitable for running under the current conditions since so much depends on the location, the equipment available, the available supervision level and the experience of the participants. Where activities have a national governing body, their websites are often full of useful ideas for tailoring the activity in the current circumstances.

# Risks and mitigating actions

Level	Permitted Activity	Key Risks	Key Control Measures	Who is responsible for making sure this happens?
<b>Red</b>	<p>No face-to-face Scouting activity allowed. Scouting can be virtual (online/video/phone). Scouting at home/with family e.g. using The Great Indoors resources</p> <p>Any third party activity should be carefully reviewed to make sure it is allowed under the relevant external guidance. Volunteers and staff should follow the guidance on third party use of premises</p>	<p>Premises must be kept safe and secure and those involved in the management of this must be safe in the work they undertake</p>	<p>Clear management plan and oversight of those undertaking these tasks. Working in socially distanced pairs where tasks are more risky</p> <p>Complete your own risk assessment for your part in any third-party activity</p>	<p>Executive Committee are responsible for the safe management of the premises, volunteers and staff</p>
<b>Amber</b>	<p>Where permitted by, and following, government guidance Scouting activities in outdoor and indoor (England only) spaces in small groups can resume. No residential activities</p> <p>Third Party/public activity likely to be increased, any activity should be carefully reviewed to ensure it is allowed under the relevant external guidance</p>	<p>Spread of infection through poor social distancing, poor hygiene practices or facilities not 'COVID-secure'</p>	<p>Make sure COVID- secure guidance is followed</p> <p>Clear communication and coordination between site and visiting groups</p> <p>Complete your own risk assessment for your part in any third-party activity</p>	<p>The Executive Committee is responsible for the safe management of the premises, volunteers and staff</p>
<b>Yellow</b>	<p>Face-to-face socially distant activities within size limits, indoors and outdoors plus camping within guidelines in England only</p> <p>Outdoor group sizes are likely to allow for larger groups</p>	<p>Spread of infection through poor social distancing, poor hygiene practices or facilities not 'COVID secure'</p>	<p>Ensure COVID - secure guidance is followed</p> <p>Clear communication and coordination between site and visiting groups</p>	<p>The Executive Committees responsible for the safe management of the premises, volunteers and staff</p>

	Third Party/public activity likely to be further increased, any activity should be carefully reviewed to ensure it's allowed under the relevant external guidance	Potential spread of infection whilst camping in England only	Complete your own risk assessment for your part in any third-party activity  Detailed guidance on camping and associated activity are in development	
<b>Green</b>	A full range of programme can be delivered including nights away	Level could drop to yellow or lower at short notice leading to cancellations and changes to any third-party use  Cash flow problems stemming from depleted reserves in the situation of having to issue refunds on fees/ further loss of income	Retain COVID-secure resources for quick redeployment  Maintain enhanced hygiene standards  Carefully manage finances to rebuild reserves and ensure good cash flow	The Executive Committee is responsible for the safe management of the premises, volunteers and staff.

## Checklist

A checklist for opening up physical property can be found [here](#). This a great guide for what to think about before starting to use any premises again.

## Useful External Links

This page from the Institute of Outdoor Learning has links to most of the relevant guidance for outdoor centres <https://www.outdoor-learning.org/Covid-19>

Opening public campsite guidance can be found [here](#)