



MINIMUM AGE FOR PARTICIPATION ON ACTIVITIES POLICY

This Policy outlines the PGL approach to the participation of young Guests on Activities.

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Summary Statement

Before any child or young person of any age is allowed to participate in any PGL led activity, the following must be satisfied:

- The AIGL (Instructor) for the activity must be assured that the child or young person has the suitable minimum physical and emotional competences needed to take part without causing to any harm to themselves or others; this includes the language skills necessary to follow key safety instructions. Any concern should be referred to the Chief Instructor and escalated to the Safety and Standards team if necessary.
- The necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other activity equipment must be suitably sized and fit for purpose, in the hands of the child in question. The size, height or weight of children may restrict their ability to operate / control specialist activity equipment.
- The parent, guardian or leader must have given permission for the child to participate.



- In respect of some activities there are other external restrictions, such as legal or regulatory limits, insurance limitations or similar which PGL is obliged to adhere to.

At all times during the activity, the AIGL retains responsibility for the safety and general welfare of the children participating; the AIGL must dynamically assess these, and act accordingly.

Children under the age of 7

In principle, PGL operates a minimum age limit for participation in activities of 7 years of age. Children younger than 7 years of age may be able to participate, but the Chief Instructor responsible for the activity programme must carry out an additional 'initial assessment' of the child and consider all of the proposed activities on the itinerary. The children's parents, guardians or party leader must be present to assist in the initial assessment and ongoing evaluation of their charge's welfare and the same criteria listed above must also be met.

PGL is unable to provide a child care service for children not able to take part in activities; children not taking part must be supervised at all times by and remain the full responsibility of a parent or guardian, leader or teacher.

Appendix 1 summarises key considerations in respect of specific activities.



APPENDIX 1 - KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Comment</u>	<u>PGL equipment</u>	<u>Specific safety rules</u>	<u>Possible age restrictions</u>
Abseiling	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Aeroball	Access for all		1 player per pod	None
All Aboard	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Archery	Need enough strength to draw bow	Arm brace, bow & arrow	Respect for safety of others	Need strength to draw bow
Ardeche Canoe Descent	Local law - everyone on river must be 7 – nobody under 7 can participate in a descent.			Local law - everyone on river must be 7 – nobody under 7 can participate in a descent.



Body Zorbing	Not safe for under 7's			Not safe for under 7's
Buggy build	Access for all			None
Bushcraft	Access for all		Knife safety if used	None
Canoeing	Access for all	PFD, Helmet, paddle	Must be water confident	Does PPE fit?
Cat Walk	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Challenge Course	Access for all, may need help on some elements			None – physical size may restrict participation
Climbing	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit? Holds may be too far apart
Crate Challenge	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Dragon Boating	Access for all	PFD, Helmet, paddle	Must be water confident	Does PPE fit?



Dry Slope Skiing (Barton Hall only)	Due to insurance regulation, minimum age for participation is 8			Due to insurance regulation, minimum age for participation is 8
Fencing	Equipment can be too large	Fencing jacket, mask and gloves	Masks stay on when foils are in hands	Does PPE fit? Is foil too heavy?
Giant Swing	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
High Ropes	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Hike, treks, walks	Depends on distance			Depends on distance vs individual's physicality
Jacobs Ladder	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Kayaking	Equipment too large for under 7's			Equipment too large for under 7's



Keelboat Sailing	Access for all	PFD, Helmet	Must be water confident	does PPE fit?
Low ropes	Access for all	Helmet	Team work	None
Matrix	Access for all		Team work	None
Mountain Bikes	Must be able to cycle	Helmet, gloves and bike	Must be able to control bike, steer a course and brake safely	Equipment may be too large
Orienteering	Access for all		Work in pairs	None
Problem solving	Access for all			None
Quad Bikes	Equipment too large for under 7's			Equipment too large for under 7's
Raft Building	Access for all	PFD, Helmet, paddle		Does PPE fit?
Rifle Shooting	Equipment may be too large	Rifle, goggles		Need to be able to operate the rifle under full control



Sailing	Access for all	PFD, Helmet	Must be water confident	Does PPE fit?
Sensory Trail	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Sequoia Scramble	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Sit on kayaks	Equipment too large for under 7's			Equipment too large for under 7's
Slacklining	Access for all, good balance, lots of falling off			None
Speed sailing (blokarting)	Equipment too large for under 7's			Equipment too large for under 7's
Street Surfing	Needs good balance, lots of falling off	Helmet, knee and elbow pads		Needs good balance, lots of falling off



Surfing	Depends on conditions	Wetsuit	Must be able to swim 25m+	Does PPE fit?
Swimming	Swimming ability form to be completed before travel		Swimming ability form to be completed before travel	None
Trapeze	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Tree Climb	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Tunnel Trail	Access for all, small confined spaces	Helmet	Work in pairs	Does PPE fit?
Vertical Challenge	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?
Zip Wire	Emotionally challenging	Helmet and harness		Does PPE fit?