

## Adventure Activities – Staffing Requirements

- The following table details the Council’s recommended minimum qualifications and staffing requirements for leading adventure activities.
- Leaders should also adhere to the ratios and qualifications recommended by the National Governing Body for each activity.
- For some activities, an in-house County assessment by a “Technical Adviser” may be required. This is denoted in the following table as “LA award”. If in any doubt, contact the ERYC Educational Visits Officer.
- If further guidance is required regarding an adventurous or high risk activity that is not included in the table, please contact the LA Educational Visits Officer (see below).
- All staff who intend to lead/instruct activities that would normally be licensable by AALS **must** be on the ERYC Register of Approved Adventure Leaders, and details of their qualifications and experience notified to and assessed by the LA Educational Visits Officer.
- Other competent and suitable volunteers and assistant leaders can also be entered on to the ERYC Register of Approved Adventure Leaders.
- Activities operating under the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Scheme will need to follow that approval system in addition to any required approval specified in these guidelines.
- This section outlines the current minimum leadership qualifications and supervision ratios required to lead adventure activities. It should be noted, however, that additional staffing might be required, depending upon the circumstances and conditions. **Please also note that the names of awards do change quite frequently and therefore checks should always be made beforehand with the current National Governing Body as to the level of accreditation or award required for each activity.**
- The precise levels of staffing should therefore reflect a specific risk assessment, taking into account factors such as the groups’ abilities, the weather conditions, and the competence of the leaders.
- If uncertain, leaders are advised to err on the side of oversupervision!

### Technical Advice

Further advice can be obtained from the National Governing Bodies for each activity or from:

Taff Bowles  
 Educational Visits Officer  
 School Improvement Service  
 County Hall  
 Beverley  
 HU17 9BA  
 Telephone: 01482 392417  
 Fax: 01482 392490  
 Email: taff.bowles@eastriding.gov.uk

## Adventure Activities Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are often used in this or other supporting documents:

AALA	Adventure Activities Licensing Authority
AALS	Adventure Activities Licensing Service
afPE	Association for Physical Education
ASL	Alpine Ski Leader
BASI	British Association of Ski Instructors
BCF	British Cycling Federation
BCU	British Canoe Union
BCU UKCC	British Canoe Union United Kingdom Coaching Certificate
BEL (A)	Basic Expedition Leaders (Award)
BESA	Bronze Expedition Supervisor Award (East Riding inhouse award)
BHSAI	British Horse Society Assistant Instructor
BMC	British Mountaineering Council
BOF	British Orienteering Federation
CIC	Cave Instructor Certificate
CLA	Countryside Leader Award
CWA/CWI	Climbing Wall Award/ Climbing Wall Instructor
DofE	Duke of Edinburgh Award
ESC	English Ski Council
ERYC	East Riding of Yorkshire County Council
HML or WGL	Hill and Moorland Leader or Walking Group Leader
LCMLA	Local Cave and Mine Leader Award
LEL	Lowland Expedition Leader
LWL	Lowland Walk Leader
MBL	Mountain Bike Leader
MIA	Mountaineering Instructor Award
MIAS	Mountainbike Instructor Award Scheme
MIC	Mountain Instructors Certificate
ML	Mountain Leader
MTUK	Mountain Training UK
NCA	National Caving Association
NGB	National Governing Body
OTC	Offroad Training Consultancy
RCI	Rock Climbing Instructor
RLSS	Royal Life Saving Society
RRS	Riding & Road Safety Certificate
RYA	Royal Yachting Association
SPA	Single Pitch Award

## Land Based Activities

ACTIVITY	RANGE OF OPERATION	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION FOR INSTRUCTOR	RECOMMENDED MINIMUM INSTRUCTOR :STUDENT RATIO (and additional adult assistance)
<b>CAMPING</b>			
Camping	Lightweight camping/low level	BESA (LA award) BEL or LEL or CLA	1 : 12 + Responsible Adult
Camping	Wild camping/high level	ML award	1 : 12 + Responsible Adult
<b>CAVING</b>			
Caving – Level 1	Horizontal systems (no pitches) easy climbs e.g. 2-3m with use of life line	Local Cave and Mine Leader Award Level 1	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Caving – Level 2	Caves with some pitches using ladder and life line techniques, up to max 18m	LCMLA Level 2	1 : 6 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Caving – NAMHO Inspected Mines	All other caving	Cave Instructor Certificate	1 : 6 + LCMLA familiar with vertical caving techniques
Mine Exploration – NAMHO Inspected Mines	Level 1 Mines horizontal systems with easy climbs, eg 2-3m with use of life line.	LCMLA Level 1 with mine endorsement	1 : 12 + Responsible Adult
Mine Exploration NAMHO Inspected Mines	Level 2 Mines (as caving)	LCMLA Level 2 with mine endorsement	1 : 6 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Mine Exploration NAMHO Inspected Mines	All other inspected mines	CIC with mine endorsement	1 : 6 + LCMLA with mine endorsement
<b>WALKING/MOUNTAINEERING</b>			
Normal country - walking/environmental studies field work	Low level farmland 30 minute access to habitation	Experienced Teacher	1 : 12
Higher level fell/moors walking (not winter conditions)	Upland areas of moors/fells, downs, non-mountaineous	WGL Award HML	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
High level Fell/Mountain walking (not winter conditions)	Above 600m ill defined path	ML Award	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
High level fell/mountain walking in winter conditions	As above but in conditions of underlying snow or hard frost Temp below +5°C	ML Winter Award	1 : 8 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Winter mountaineering	Up to Grade III snow and ice	MIC	1 : 3
Coastal walks	Non remote – as for geography fieldwork	Experienced Teacher	1 : 15 + Responsible Adult
<b>ORIENTEERING</b>			

ACTIVITY	RANGE OF OPERATION	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION FOR INSTRUCTOR	RECOMMENDED MINIMUM INSTRUCTOR :STUDENT RATIO (and additional adult assistance)
Orienteering	School grounds	Teacher - relevant experience or BOF level 1 Coach	Class size
Orienteering	Non remote contained areas inc small woods	BOF Level 2 Coach (former 'Instructor')	1 : 12 + Responsible Adult
Orienteering	Uncontained open areas (not exposed or remote or complex)	BOF Level 3 Coach (former 'Club Coach')	1 : 12 + Responsible Adult
<b>CLIMBING</b>			
Rock climbing	Specified single pitch climbs	RCI SPA	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Rock climbing	Unspecified single pitch climbs with easy access	RCI SPA	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Rock climbing	Unspecified single pitch climbs with remote access	RCI or SPA + ML Award Summer	1 : 10 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Rock climbing	Multi pitch rock climbs	MIA Award	1 : 3
Artificial climbing walls	Indoors or outdoors	CWI CWA SPA In-house assessed	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
<b>CYCLING/ MOUNTAIN BIKING</b>			
Cycling – road	Any cycling on road	Contact Technical Adviser for advice	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Cycling – off road	Below 600m non remote easy tracks	MBL Level 1 OTC Level 1 MIAS Level 1	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Cycling – off road	Below 600m any permissible route	MBL Level 2 OTC Level 2 MIAS Level 2	1 : 10 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
<b>GORGE SCRAMBLING</b>			
Gorge scrambling *	Easy accessibility non technical low water	Summer ML + SPA or RCI	1 : 12 + Responsible Adult
Gorge scrambling *	Water traverse – medium water	Summer ML + SPA or RCI + BCU L3 Coach	1 : 8 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Gorge scrambling *	Technical use of ropes and climbing equipment	MIA	1 : 8 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
* Any gorge in a remote location will also require the appropriate Walking Leader Award			
<b>SKIING</b>			
Skiing – downhill	Resort package but with controlled skiing outside ski school. In UK with suitable local conditions	Alpine Ski Leader	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Skiing – downhill	Teaching and leading. Usually available only in specific resorts (Scotland)	BASI Level 2	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Skiing – dry slope	Specific site	BASI Level 1	1 : 10

ACTIVITY	RANGE OF OPERATION	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION FOR INSTRUCTOR	RECOMMENDED MINIMUM INSTRUCTOR :STUDENT RATIO (and additional adult assistance)
Skiing – cross country	Simple slopes, paths, tracks, easy open areas in England with suitable local conditions (non remote)	BASI 1 Nordic	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Skiing – cross country	More remote areas of English uplands	BASI 2 Nordic + ML Summer	1 : 8 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Skiing – cross country	In resort	BASI 2 Nordic/Telemark	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
<b>ROPES COURSE</b>			
Low ropes courses	Purpose built	In house assessed	1 : 10
<b>TEAMBUILDING</b>			
Initiative and team work challenges	Non technical use of equipment	Teacher - relevant experience	1 : 10
Initiative and team work challenges	Technical use of equipment	Teacher - relevant experience +inhouse assessed	1 : 10
<b>HORSES</b>			
Pony trekking	Specific routes	BHS Stage II and TRRS certificate or ABRS Trek Leader Certificate	1 : 6
Horse riding	Specific routes	BHS AI	1 : 4

## Water Based Activities

ACTIVITY	RANGE OF OPERATION	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION FOR INSTRUCTOR	RECOMMENDED MINIMUM INSTRUCTOR :STUDENT RATIO (and additional adult assistance)
<b>KAYAKING</b>			
Kayaking – inland	Sheltered water No journeying	BCU Coach Level 2 (or inhouse assessed Level 1) UKCC Level 2	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Kayaking – inland	Flat water journeying including sheltered areas of large lakes	BCU Coach Level 2 UKCC Level 2	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Kayaking – inland	Moving water Grade 2 + (and journeys on open areas of large water)	BCU Coach Level 3 + (and 5 star)	1 : 8 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Kayaking – inland	Above Grade 3+ water	BCU Coach Level 3 + 5 star	1 : 6 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Kayaking – surf	Below 1m waves	BCU Coach 3 – surf BCU Coach 3 – sea	1 : 8 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Wave Ski	Below 1m waves	BCU Coach 3 – surf BCU Coach 3 – sea	1 : 8 + Responsible Adult
Kayaking or Wave Ski – surf	Above 1m waves	BCU Coach 4 – surf	1 : 6 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Kayaking - sea	Sea and large lochs with activities close to suitable beaches	BCU Coach Level 3	
Kayaking – sea	Journeying as defined for BCU Coach Level 3 (+ advanced sea journeys)	BCU Coach 3 – sea (+ 5 star sea kayak)	1 : 6 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
<b>OPEN CANOEING</b>			
Open Canoe	Sheltered water No journeying	BCU Coach Level 2	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Open Canoe	Flat water – journeying including sheltered areas of large lakes	BCU Coach Level 2	1 : 10 + Responsible Adult
Open Canoe	Moving water Grade 2 and open areas of large lakes	BCU Coach Level 3	1 : 8 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
<b>SAILING</b>			
Sailing – 2 person sailing dinghy	Sheltered water wind strength below 15mph with appropriate	RYA Asst Instructor Venue specific	1 : 4

ACTIVITY	RANGE OF OPERATION	MINIMUM QUALIFICATION FOR INSTRUCTOR	RECOMMENDED MINIMUM INSTRUCTOR :STUDENT RATIO (and additional adult assistance)
	safety cover		
Sailing – single handed sailing dinghy	Sheltered water maximum 6 dinghies wind strength below 15mph with appropriate safety cover	RYA Instructor venue specific	1 : 6 + Responsible Adult
Sailing	Inland water Type of dinghies determined by experience, with appropriate safety cover	RYA Instructor - Dinghy (Inland)	1 : 6 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)
Sailing sea dinghy	Open waters Sea estuary Motorised rescue boat with competent helm essential	RYA Senior Instructor Coastal	1 RYA Instructor: up to 6 boats if helms are competent
Sailing	Other types of sailing cruising yachts	Contact Technical Adviser	
<b>WINDSURFING</b>			
Windsurfing	Inland water with appropriate safety cover	RYA Start Windsurfing Instructor (S/NVQ Level 2)	1 : 6 + Responsible Adult
<b>RESCUE BOATS</b>			
Rescue Boat	Where appropriate sailing/windsurfing activity may be accompanied by rescue boat(s)	RYA Powerboat Level 2 Sportboat	Sailsport participants 1:12 per powerboat (dependent upon type of rescue boat)
<b>RAFTING</b>			
Rafting – improvised	Sheltered water Construction and use of improvised rafts for team building type exercises	BCU Coach Level 2 Coach with relevant raftbuilding experience	1 : 10 + Assistant Leader (with technical training)