

Risk Assessment

Risk Assessment for the activity of	Gaana Society Generic Risk Assessment		Date	16/08/2025
Are you a sports club or society?	Performing Arts Society	Assessor	Zahra Faysal	
President/Captain Name/2nd Committee Member	President: Lacksha Jeyabraba	Signed off	SUSU USE ONLY	
Risk Assessment Information (What is this risk assessment for? Please provide a summary of the activity or event, including all relevant information)	<p>Description of workshops/classes/sessions: Gaana holds regular dance sessions throughout the academic year. Weekly sessions take place on Wednesdays from 8–10pm in the Multi-Purpose Studio (MPS). In addition, squad rehearsals are scheduled on weekday evenings, with timings varying depending on competition preparation, usually taking place in rooms within Building 34.</p> <p>Equipment used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portable speaker (for music playback) Personal water bottles, appropriate footwear, and clothing (brought by members) <p>Locations used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-Purpose Studio (MPS) for weekly sessions Building 34 rooms for squad rehearsals and smaller practice sessions <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All sessions are supervised by committee members <p>Members are reminded to bring water and warm up appropriately before dancing to reduce risk of injury</p>			

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Dance classes										

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Physical Exertion/injury in class	People may trip, fall, or slip, due to generally slippery flooring or due to trip hazards	All those in the class	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Encourage all dancers to wear appropriate footwear and advise on what this is.Ensure that trip hazards are identified and removed.Ensure there are regular drinks breaks in class especially in hot weather.Ensure there is access to a first aid kit and ice packs encase of injury.	1	3	3	<p>Ask the students at the start of class if they have had any recent injuries so the teacher can accommodate for these.</p> <p>if the injury is serious and participant in a lot of pain or discomfort, seek medical attention immediately.</p> <p>Call 999 in an emergency.</p> <p>Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.</p>

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Falling while participating in activity	Injuries and Bruising	All those in the class	3	1	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain split ability classes to ensure students are not pushed beyond what is safe for them.When learning new tricks make sure the students are fully comfortable and have spotters/support around them.	2	1	2	<p>If an individual is at risk of falling due to slippery footwear, ask them to change and dance in a more suitable and safe clothing</p> <p>If the injury is serious and participant in a lot of pain or discomfort, seek medical attention immediately.</p> <p>Call 999 in an emergency.</p> <p>Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.</p>	

Exhaustion	Could Lead to an increased likelihood of injury or when hot, fainting.	All those in the class	2	1	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enusre all dancers are aware of where they can get water. • Ensure there are plenty of water breaks in the classes. Especially in adverse weather conditions. • Enusre no dancer feels obligated to over- exert themself. 	1	1	1	<p>If a student appears exhausted, be proactive in advising them to sit out and eliminate risk of further exhaustion.</p> <p>If Weather conditions are adverse eg: very hot president to make a call on if class should be on.</p> <p>if the injury is serious and participant in a lot of pain or discomfort, seek medical attention immediately.</p> <p>Call 999 in an emergency.</p> <p>Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.</p>
Setting up of class equipment Eg; Matts, speakers	Cause strain , injury, bruising or grazing	Studets and teacher	2	2	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit carrying equipment to just committee members who have practice in handling them. 	1	2	2	<p>Ensure equipment is set up prior to letting students into class</p> <p>If a student appears exhausted, be proactive in</p> <p>If the injury is serious and participant in a lot of pain or</p>

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none">Train committee members in manual handling.				<p>discomfort, seek medical attention immediately. Call 999 in an emergency.</p> <p>Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.</p>

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Footwear Eg; correct trainers	Injury, bruising, damage.	All those using these shoes	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure all dancers have proper dance footwear.• Ensure the space is equipped for wearing shoes such as tap shoes.• Ensure any shoes and styles that require adequate training eg: pointe is checked before individuals are allowed to participate.• Ensure if people are borrowing dance shoes a committee member will advise on what size is correct.	1	3	6	<p>Ensure equipment is set up prior to letting students into class If a student appears exhausted, be proactive in If the injury is serious and participant in a lot of pain or discomfort, seek medical attention immediately. Call 999 in an emergency.</p> <p>Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.</p>

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Electrical Equipment eg. Laptops/computers, speakers etc	Trip hazard and Fire hazard	Everyone in the MPS	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure no liquids are placed near electrical equipment. • Remind Dancers not to leave trailing wires. • Turn off plug sockets when not in use. 	1	3	3	<p>Seek medical attention if injury is serious and participant in a lot of pain or discomfort, seek medical attention immediately. Call 999 in an emergency.</p> <p>Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.</p>

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Security of Personal Belongings	Belongings being damaged or stolen	Everyone in the MPS	2	3	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Remind Dancers to only bring essential items.Remind dancers to take care of their belongings and that they are responsible for them.	1	3	3	Report any incidents to SUSU	
General Considerations (including group meetings) In case of an emergency, please pull nearest fire alarm and ensure all participants leave the venue calmly and safely. Once in a safe position to do so, call the emergency services on 999. Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.											

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Slips, trips and falls	Soft tissue injury e.g., sprain, bruising. Potential broken ankle or other breaks i.e. wrists etc. Links directly to weather and ground surfaces.	All participants and organisers/staff and spectators	2	3	6	Check ground conditions for holes, lumps, and other obstacles.	1	3	3	If the injury is serious and participant in a lot of pain or discomfort, seek medical attention immediately. Call 999 in an emergency. Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.

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Fire	Smoke inhalation, burns and more severe. Risk of extreme harm.	All participants and organisers/staff and spectators	1	5	5	<p>Those leading the session must ensure they are aware of and fully understand the venue or locations fire procedures.</p> <p>Those leading must make sure that all exit routes are clearly highlighted and report any issues immediately to the venue.</p> <p>Highlight to all the participants the nearest emergency exit routes at the start of a session, and the importance of leaving calmly in case of an emergency.</p> <p>Consider accessibility requirements</p>	1	4	4	<p>In case of an emergency, please pull nearest fire alarm and ensure all participants leave the venue calmly and safely.</p> <p>Once in a safe position to do so, call the emergency services on 999.</p> <p>Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.</p>	

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Setting up/moving or chairs/tables/other objects in the area.	Bruising or broken bones from tripping over table and chairs.	Meeting organisers and attendees	2	3	6	Make stall operators aware of the potential risks, follow manual handling guidelines Ensure that at least 2 people carry tables. Setting up tables will be done by organisers. Work in teams when handling other large and bulky items. Request tools to support with move of heavy objects- SUSU Facilities/venue. E.g., hand truck, dolly, skates Make sure anyone with any pre-existing conditions isn't doing any unnecessary lifting and they are comfortable.	1	3	3	Seek assistance if in need of extra help from facilities staff/venue staff if needed Seek medical attention from SUSU Reception if in need Contact emergency services if needed All incidents are to be reported on the as soon as possible ensuring the duty manager/health and safety officer have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy	

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Overcrowding	Physical injury	Event organisers and attendees	1	3	3	Do not push/shove If large crowds form, barriers can be requested by SUSU facilities team (if available on the day) to assist with crowd management. Book during quieter times when less activities taking place on Redbrick/book all available space Inform other bookings on the Redbrick/in the area of the event	1	3	3	Seek medical attention if problem arises With support from a SUSU Activities coordinator Inform UoS security team of the event (– on campus 3311, off campus 02380 593311. unisecurity@soton.ac.uk) and liaise with them on need for security teams on the day Security team may inform police of the event if required (e.g. marches)	

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Electronics	Risk of eye strain, injury, electric shock	Committee and attendees	2	4	8	Ensure regular breaks (ideally every 20mins) when using screens Ensure screen is set up to avoid glare, is at eye height where possible Ensure no liquids are placed near electrical equipment Ensure all leads are secured with cable ties/mats etc	1	4	4	Request support and advice from SUSU IT/Tech teams e.g. via activities team For external venues pre-check equipment and last PAT testing dates Seek medical attention as required	

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Accessibility: Entrances and Exits to the chosen area.	Participants may be prevented from attending the activity due to a lack of considerations of accessibility needs and requirements. They could also be prevented from leaving the area quickly in an emergency if the correct infrastructure and considerations have not been made.	Participants, committee	1	5	5	All areas chosen for activity will have their suitability checked. If a closed activity for members, members will be consulted to ensure there are no accessibility requirements. If an open activity, committee will consider all accessibility requirements and ensure that the area chosen is as accessible as possible.	1	5	5	In case of an emergency, call the emergency services on 999. If those with accessibility problems have not been able to exit, make the building manager and emergency services aware. Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.	

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Reputational Risk: For the club or society, as well as to SUSU and the University	Incidents during club or society activity could pose a reputational risk to the club, Southampton University Students’ Union or Southampton University itself. This could be controversial posts, conduct during a game, conduct during social, or anything else that brings the clubs/societies, SUSU or the University’s name into disrepute.	The club, SUSU or the University’s reputation	2	1	2	Ensuring all parts of this risk assessment are adhered to. Ensuring that any incidents involving public or others are recorded and addressed. Ensuring all members are reminded that they are representing the club/society, SUSU and the University in (usually) branded clothing.	1	1	1	

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Financial Risk: For the club or society, or potentially even SUSU if the club/soc finds itself in difficulty.	Club or society activity costing more than planned, weakening their financial position. Incidents with members of the public, participants, staff or members causing lawsuits and financial penalties.	The club or society Members subject to lawsuits SUSU if required to assist.	1	1	1	Clubs and societies required to complete financial forecasting and budget for the year. All encouraged to review membership fees yearly to ensure they are able to comfortably cover costs. SUSU can offer clubs and societies loans – these will need to be agreed and a payment schedule decided upon. Clubs and societies that have to rely on a loan will be subject to development plans to ensure their future is protected.	1	1	1	

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Legal Compliance: Club or society activity going against set law. This includes breaches of the freedom of speech act	Fines imposed upon the student group as well as SUSU. Jail sentences. Reputational risk to the student group, SUSU and the wider University	The club or society, committee and members, SUSU or the Wider University.	1	1	1	All clubs and societies should ensure they are following set law at all times. If ever in doubt, they will contact the Activities team prior to the activity taking place. All who wish to bring in an external speaker must follow due process, available here This will be looked over by the University Legal Services team, and may require security being consulted and an extra risk assessment being submitted.	1	1	1	

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Medical Issues: Pre-existing and process for any that appear during club or society activity	Illness, death	Members, committee	3	5	9	All clubs and societies should have a process for if a medical issue occurs. All should know the location of the nearest first aider. Members do not need to disclose medical information to committee (GDPR), but all committee should know how to find a first aider and help quickly. If in a Southampton Sport space, contact reception. If in SUSU, contact reception. If no-one can be found, contact campus Security – 02380 593311	1	1	1	In an emergency, contact 999. Any incidents need to be reported as soon as possible ensuring duty manager/health and safety officers have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy.	

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Socials										
Costumes/Fancy Dress	Props/costumes causing injury or offence	Participants Members of the public	2	2	4	Ask members to only bring small items and use sensibly. Members of the society are responsible for their own possessions and the use of them. Choose a theme unlikely to cause offence. Any participant wearing items deemed offensive asked to remove these. Society to follow and share with members Code of conduct/SUSU Expect Respect policy	1	2	2	SUSU Expect Respect policy to be followed Committee WIDE training

Alcohol consumption	<p>Participants may become at risk as a result of alcohol consumption</p> <p>Members of the public may act violently towards participants.</p>	Event organisers, event attendees,	2	5	10	<p>Members are responsible for their individual safety though and are expected to act sensibly</p> <p>Initiation behaviour not to be tolerated and drinking games to be discouraged</p> <p>For socials at bars/pubs etc bouncers will be present at most venues.</p> <p>Bar Security staff will need to be alerted and emergency services called as required.</p> <p>Where possible the consumption of alcohol will take place at licensed premises. The conditions on the license will be adhered to and alcohol will not be served to customers who have drunk to excess</p> <p>Committee to select 'student friendly' bars/clubs and contact them in advance to inform them of the event</p> <p>Society to follow and share with members Code of conduct/SUSU Expect Respect policy</p>	1	3	5	<p>Follow SUSU incident report policy</p> <p>Call emergency services as required 111/999</p> <p>Committee WIDE training</p>
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Socials-Travel	Vehicle's collision -causing serious injury	Event organisers, event attendees, Members of the public	4	3	12	<p>Members are responsible for their individual safety though and are expected to act sensibly</p> <p>Local venues known to University of Southampton (UoS) students chosen</p> <p>Event organisers will be available to direct people between venues.</p> <p>Attendees will be encouraged to identify a 'buddy', this will make it easier for people to stay together. They will be encouraged (but not expected) to look out for one another and check in throughout the night where possible.</p> <p>Avoid large groups of people totally blocking the pavement or spilling in to the road.</p> <p>Anybody in the group who is very drunk or appears unwell and therefore not safe should be encouraged to go home ideally with someone else. If required a taxi will be called for them (ideally SUSU safety bus will be used, or radio taxis).</p>	2	2	4	<p>Where possible venues chosen for socials will be local/known to members and within a short distance from each other.</p> <p>Contact emergency services as required 111/999</p> <p>Incidents are to be reported on the as soon as possible ensuring the duty manager/health and safety officer have been informed.</p> <p>Follow SUSU incident report policy</p>
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						Be considerate of other pedestrians & road users, keep disturbance & noise down.				
Socials – Travel by car, train, bus, plane when leaving the local area.	Vehicle collision – causing anything from minor to severe injuries, as well as mental health issues.	Members, those driving, members of the public	4	3	12	Club committee to check that drivers have the relevant licences and insurance for the mode of travel. This includes if they have completed a SUSU minibus test. Members expected to drive or travel in a sensible manor, with those doing otherwise to face disciplinary action (from the club in the first instance). Can cause reputational issues, especially if driving SUSU branded vehicles. Importance of this to be reminded.	2	2	4	Contact emergency services as required 111/999 Incidents are to be reported on the as soon as possible ensuring the duty manager/health and safety officer have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy

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Socials - Medical emergency	Members may sustain injury /become unwell pre-existing medical conditions Sickness Distress	Members	3	5	15	Advise participants; to bring their personal medication Members/Committee to carry out first aid if necessary and <u>only if</u> qualified and confident to do so Contact emergency services as required 111/999 Contact SUSU Reception/Venue staff for first aid support	2	5	15	Incidents are to be reported on the as soon as possible ensuring the duty manager/health and safety officer have been informed. Follow SUSU incident report policy	

Spiked Drinks/Alcohol Poisoning	Participants may consume too much alcohol during this event or be spiked. This could result in a loss of consciousness or self-control	Event organisers, event attendees,	2	5	10	<p>Supervision, the event will be run by the society committee. These attend each venue. Ideally, they will not drink to excess during the event.</p> <p>Bouncers/trained staff in Pubs should watch for excessive drinking and watch people who are believed to have consumed a lot of alcohol. Report any suspicious behaviour to staff.</p> <p>Participants encouraged to stay with a nominated 'buddy' where possible.</p> <p>The organizers have confirmed the premise is licensed. Action organizers (b).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consumption of alcohol will take place at licensed premises. The conditions on the license will be adhered to and alcohol will not be served to customers who have drunk to excess. Action licensee. <p><u>Games involving binge drinking or the consumption of excessive amounts of</u></p>	2	3	6	<p>Members are responsible for their individual safety though and are expected to act sensibly when walking around. For anyone who is too inebriated it will be suggested to them that they should return home rather than continue on the social. Taxis will be called if required (look at SUSU safety Bus, Radio Taxis options)</p> <p>If they need to go to the hospital they will also be accompanied there.</p> <p>Participants advised to avoid leaving drinks unattended and if you think anything has been added to a drink; report it; try and retain the drink for testing.</p> <p>All incidents are to be reported on the as soon as possible ensuring the duty manager/health and safety officer have been informed.</p> <p>Follow SUSU incident report policy</p>
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						<u>alcohol are not to be undertaken.- Society to follow Code of conduct/Expect Respect policy</u>				



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Members getting lost or separated. Members leaving an event/activity alone or without notifying others.	During the event participants may decide they want to leave, or they may get lost on the way	Event organisers, event attendees,	3	3	9	If a person leaves without warning all efforts will be done to locate them. Stress however that attendees are responsible for their individual safety. Supervision, the event will be run by the society committee These attend each venue. Ideally, they will not drink to excess during the event Venues chosen local and within a short distance from each other. Will look to select venues known to UoS students and within student areas.	2	2	4	Follow SUSU incident report policy Call emergency services as required

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Violent or offensive behaviour	Participants may become violent or offensive due to the consumption of too much alcohol. Members of the public may act violently towards participants.	Event organisers, event attendees,	2	5	10	Bouncers will be present at most venues. Bar Security staff will need to be alerted and emergency services called as required. The consumption of alcohol will take place at licensed premises. The conditions on the license will be adhered to and alcohol will not be served to customers who have drunk to excess Committee to select ‘student friendly’ bars/clubs and contact them in advance to inform them of the event Society to follow and share with members Code of conduct/SUSU Expect Respect policy	1	3	5	If the situation becomes very serious and results in the participant being arrested then it will be made clear that they cannot be accompanied to the police station. Follow SUSU incident report policy Call emergency services as required

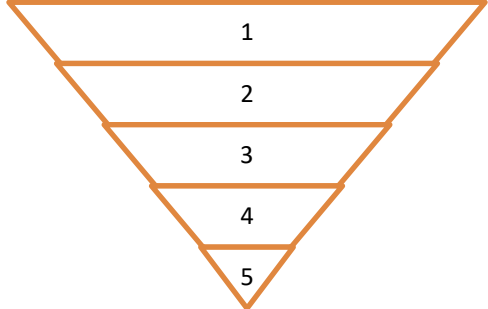
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			Likelihood	Impact	Score		Likelihood	Impact	Score	
Adverse weather	Injury, Illness, Slipping, Burns	Event organisers, event attendees,	4	3	12	Lead organiser to check the weather are suitable for activities on the day Warn those attending to prepare by wearing appropriate clothing and footwear e.g. via social media posts, email invites In the case of hot weather organisers to advice participants to bring/wear appropriate level sunscreen, hydrate	4	1	4	If adverse weather is too extreme to be controlled, the event should ultimately be cancelled or postponed to a different date

PART A										
(1) Risk identification			(2) Risk assessment				(3) Risk management			
Hazard	Potential Consequences	Who might be harmed (user; those nearby; those in the vicinity; members of the public)	Inherent			Control measures (use the risk hierarchy)	Residual			Further controls (use the risk hierarchy)
			Likelihood	Impact	Score		Likelihood	Impact	Score	
Slips, trips and falls as a result of alcohol	Consumption of too much alcohol may result in participants falling and subsequently injuring themselves.	Event organisers, event attendees,	3	2	6	Committee to check that chosen venues meet the following requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Venue is in good condition with no major trip hazards. - Bar staff monitor the condition of the floors & mop up split drinks. - Security staff & Bar Staff provide first aid cover. DJ's or bands equipment placed so as not to form a trip hazard. Power supply leads taped down.	3	1	3	If necessary, emergency services will be called Request first aid at venue Follow SUSU incident report policy
Allergies - food and drink	Allergic reactions to food and drink when out	Event organisers, event attendees,	3	5	15	Attendees responsible for own welfare such instances- follow guidelines of venues. First aid requested from bar staff as required.	1	5	5	Call Emergency Services/alert bar staff

PART B – Action Plan**Risk Assessment Action Plan**

Part no.	Action to be taken, incl. Cost	By whom	Target date	Review date	Outcome at review date
1	Ensure that the floor is suitable to dance on before class ie: no dents or trip hazards in the floor.	Lacksha Jeyabraba	20/08/2025		
2	Ensure there are regular breaks during class for members to grab water or to rest.	Ratheena Kumanan	23/08/2025		
3	Committee to read and share SUSU Expect Respect Policy	Lacksha Jeyabraba, Krishna Nakanathan, Zahra Faysal	20/08/2025		
4	Familiarise members of Fire Evacuation Procedures written within each of the university Rooms	Lacksha Jeyabraba	23/08/2025		
Responsible committee member signature:  Print name: Zahra Faysal				Responsible committee member signature:  Print name: Lacksha Jeyabraba	
Date: 16/08/2025				Date: 16/08/2025	

Assessment Guidance

1. Eliminate	Remove the hazard wherever possible which negates the need for further controls	If this is not possible then explain why	
2. Substitute	Replace the hazard with one less hazardous	If not possible then explain why	
3. Physical controls	Examples: enclosure, fume cupboard, glove box	Likely to still require admin controls as well	
4. Admin controls	Examples: training, supervision, signage		
5. Personal protection	Examples: respirators, safety specs, gloves	Last resort as it only protects the individual	

LIKELIHOOD	5	5	10	15	20	25
	4	4	8	12	16	20
	3	3	6	9	12	15
	2	2	4	6	8	10
	1	1	2	3	4	5
	1	2	3	4	5	
	IMPACT					

Risk process

1. Identify the impact and likelihood using the tables above.
2. Identify the risk rating by multiplying the Impact by the likelihood using the coloured matrix.
3. If the risk is amber or red – identify control measures to reduce the risk to as low as is reasonably practicable.
4. If the residual risk is green, additional controls are not necessary.
5. If the residual risk is amber the activity can continue but you must identify and implement further controls to reduce the risk to as low as reasonably practicable.
6. If the residual risk is red do not continue with the activity until additional controls have been implemented and the risk is reduced.
7. Control measures should follow the risk hierarchy, where appropriate as per the pyramid above.
8. The cost of implementing control measures can be taken into account but should be proportional to the risk i.e. a control to reduce low risk may not need to be carried out if the cost is high but a control to manage high risk means that even at high cost the control would be necessary.

Impact		Health & Safety
1	Trivial - insignificant	Very minor injuries e.g. slight bruising
2	Minor	Injuries or illness e.g. small cut or abrasion which require basic first aid treatment even in self-administered.
3	Moderate	Injuries or illness e.g. strain or sprain requiring first aid or medical support.
4	Major	Injuries or illness e.g. broken bone requiring medical support >24 hours and time off work >4 weeks.
5	Severe – extremely significant	Fatality or multiple serious injuries or illness requiring hospital admission or significant time off work.

Likelihood	
1	Rare e.g. 1 in 100,000 chance or higher
2	Unlikely e.g. 1 in 10,000 chance or higher
3	Possible e.g. 1 in 1,000 chance or higher
4	Likely e.g. 1 in 100 chance or higher
5	Very Likely e.g. 1 in 10 chance or higher