L-FIT PATHWAYS

Risk Assessment

Premises and activity-specific hazard, control and review record

15-17 Irlam Road, Bootle, Liverpool, L20 4AE · Alternative Provision for Ages 5–25

ADOPTED POLICY

This policy has been formally adopted by L-Fit Pathways' co-directors and is in effect from the date shown below. Any section still shown in [square brackets and amber text] is organisation-specific detail that remains to be confirmed and inserted - it does not affect the rest of the policy's validity but should be completed as soon as possible.

Version: 1.0 (Adopted)
Date Adopted: 16 September 2026
Next Review Due: 16 September 2027 (or sooner following any legislative change or safeguarding incident)

1. Purpose & Scope

This risk assessment covers the premises at 15-17 Irlam Road, Bootle, Liverpool, L20 4AE and all L-Fit Pathways provision delivered there or off-site: Forest School, Animal Assisted Learning, Educational Tuition, Boxing Fitness & Discipline, Life Skills, Digital Detox, Reintegration & Transition support, and our community Wellbeing Hub sessions. It should be read alongside the Health & Safety Policy and reviewed at least annually, before any new activity is introduced, and immediately after any incident.

Risk rating uses a simple Likelihood (1–3) × Severity (1–3) scale: Low (1–3), Medium (4–6), High (7–9). Ratings below assume the existing controls listed are in place; owners must reassess if controls lapse.

2. Premises — 15-17 Irlam Road, Bootle, Liverpool, L20 4AE

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
Fire	All	Fire alarm, extinguishers, marked exits, evacuation procedure explained at induction	Medium	Fire risk assessment reviewed annually; fire drills carried out termly	Co-Directors / Annual
Slips, trips & falls	All	Clear walkways, spillages cleared immediately, adequate lighting	Low	Routine visual checks before each session	Session Lead / Ongoing
Electrical equipment	All	PAT-tested equipment, visual checks before use	Low	All portable electrical equipment PAT-tested annually	Co-Directors / Annual
Unauthorised visitor access (safeguarding)	Young people	Visitor sign-in, staff supervision, main entrance monitored during Wellbeing Hub open-access sessions	Medium	All visitors accompanied at all times; ID checked on arrival	DSLs / Ongoing
First aid	All	Paediatric first-aid	Low	First aid kits checked and	Co-

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
emergency		trained staff on site, stocked first aid kit		restocked termly; first aid certificates renewed every 3 years	Directors / Termly

3. Forest School / Outdoor Sessions

Forest School is delivered in partnership with an outsourced, registered Forest School provider. Sessions are led by the provider's qualified Forest School leader. L-Fit Pathways retains responsibility for the safeguarding and supervision of young people, and for each young person's plan, throughout every session.

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
Weather exposure (cold, heat, rain)	Young people, staff	Weather checked before session, appropriate clothing required, sessions adapted/cancelled in severe weather	Medium	Provide spare weatherproof clothing where possible	Session Lead / Each session
Tools (knives, saws, fire-lighting equipment)	Young people	Tool use led only by the provider's qualified Forest School leader; 1:1 or small-group supervision during tool use, age/ability-appropriate tasks, tool safety briefing	Medium	Outsourced provider holds a recognised Forest School leader qualification (e.g. Level 3); L-Fit Pathways checks evidence of qualification, insurance and Enhanced DBS before booking	Co-Directors / Each booking
Open fire (where used)	Young people, staff	Fire circle briefing, water/extinguisher on site, fire never left unattended; fire-lighting led only by the provider's qualified Forest School leader	High	Provider's Forest School leader qualification and public liability insurance confirmed before any fire-lighting session	Co-Directors / Ongoing
Terrain, water, wildlife/plants	Young people	Site walked and hazards identified before each session; boundaries set with the group	Medium	Site-specific risk assessment refreshed each season	Session Lead / Seasonal
Ratios / lone working outdoors	Staff	Minimum two staff present on all outdoor sessions, including the provider's leader and at least one L-Fit Pathways staff member	Medium	Minimum ratio of 1 staff : 4 young people outdoors, rising with group risk profile	Co-Directors / Ongoing

4. Animal Assisted Learning

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
Animal behaviour / unpredictability	Young people	Trained handler present at all times, animals	Medium	Handler and animals supplied by our vetted,	Session Lead /

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
		assessed as suitable temperament, clear handling rules		licensed outsourced AAL provider; provider confirms handler qualifications and welfare assessment records before each booking	Ongoing
Allergies	Young people	Allergy status checked at referral and before each session	Medium	Alternative activity offered where allergy risk identified	DSLs / Each referral
Hygiene / zoonotic infection	Young people, staff	Hand-washing before and after contact, animal areas kept clean	Low	Hand sanitiser available at point of contact	Session Lead / Ongoing
Animal welfare	Animals	Animals owned, housed and cared for by our outsourced AAL provider in line with the Animal Welfare Act 2006; rest breaks built into sessions	Low	L-Fit Pathways checks the provider holds appropriate licensing and insurance before booking; day-to-day animal welfare responsibility sits with the provider	Session Lead / Ongoing

5. Boxing Fitness & Discipline

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
Injury from training	Young people	Non-contact only, correct technique supervision, equipment condition checked before use	Medium	Warm-up/cool-down built into every session; first aider present	Session Lead / Ongoing
Equipment (pads, bags, gloves)	Young people, staff	Visual condition checks before use, replaced when worn	Low	Equipment condition formally inspected termly, alongside routine visual checks before each session	Session Lead / Termly
Overexertion / medical conditions	Young people	Medical/health information checked at referral, activity adapted to individual ability	Medium	Staff trained to recognise signs of overexertion and pause activity	DSLs / Each referral

6. Educational Tuition & Digital Detox

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
One-to-one setting (safeguarding)	Young people	Sessions held in visible/open areas or with door open where 1:1, staff never alone off-site with a young person unannounced	Medium	Line-of-sight or paired working maintained where possible	DSLs / Ongoing
Device	Young people	Clear explanation and	Low	Staff trained to support	Session

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
withdrawal anxiety (Digital Detox)		consent process before sessions; devices stored securely and returned promptly at session end		transition and any distress calmly	Lead / Ongoing
Device security	Young people	Devices logged in/out, stored in a locked location during detox sessions	Low	Devices logged in a sign-in/out register and stored in a locked cabinet during sessions	Session Lead / Ongoing

7. Life Skills / Community-Based Sessions

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
Road safety / travel training	Young people	Routes risk-assessed in advance, staff-to-young-person ratios increased for off-site travel	Medium	Minimum ratio of 1 staff : 3 young people off-site; written parental/carer consent obtained before any off-site session	Session Lead / Each activity
Public setting exposure	Young people	Destinations pre-visited/assessed by staff where possible; group stays together with named staff lead	Medium	Emergency contact procedure briefed before departure	Session Lead / Each activity
Lone working (staff)	Staff	Staff check in with a DSL before and after any lone community-based session	Medium	Staff check in by phone or text at the start and end of any lone session, with escalation if contact is not made within 30 minutes	Co-Directors / Ongoing

8. Community Wellbeing Hub

Hazard	Who's at Risk	Existing Controls	Risk Rating	Additional Controls	Owner / Review
Open-access visitor safeguarding	Young people, visitors	Sign-in at entrance, staff presence during all open sessions, safeguarding of any young people present during open-access hours	Medium	Separate scheduling to avoid open-access and young-person sessions overlapping unsupervised	DSLs / Ongoing
Room capacity / overcrowding	All	Maximum capacity of 18 people set per room, monitored by staff on duty	Low	Capacity displayed in each room and enforced by staff during all sessions	Co-Directors / Ongoing

9. Review

This risk assessment is reviewed annually, before any new activity or venue is introduced, and immediately following any accident, incident or near-miss. All session leads must read the relevant section before delivering that activity for the first time.

Risk assessment completed by: Adam Byrne & Craig Lloyd, Co-Directors — Date: 16 September 2026 — Next review due: 16 September 2027