**INFORMATION REQUIRED BY CHILD SAFETY IN CONSIDERING HIGH RISK ACTIVITIES**

*Below are the questions that CSO’s are required to answer when requesting approval for high risk activities*

**Canoeing**

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| What are the potential hazards and risks of activity | Capsize - drowning  Anxiety/PTS/trauma based behaviours – reinforcing dysfunctional responses to stress  Heat - dehydration  Insects and animal bites – snake venom to itchiness |
| What is the name and contact details of the organisation providing the activity (eg school/agency/activity centre)? | Youth Flourish Outdoors Ltd, Level 13, 50 Cavill Ave, Surfers Paradise, ph: 1300 803 701 |
| If known, what are the credentials of the organisation (eg member of professional agency/board/federation)? | Member:  Australian Assoc for Bush Adventure Therapy  Qld Outdoor Recreation Federation  International Assoc for Youth Mental Health (pending)  Commercial operator permit with Dept Natural Resources (if within national Park etc) |
| What will be the level of supervision offered to the child/young person (eg. how many participants per supervisor/full supervision/unsupervised)? | Ratio 1:3 is maximum |
| Does the supervisor have appropriate qualifications to supervise this activity? | Yes.  Outdoor recreation specialisations from Sport and Rec, Outdoor Rec competency standards. Youth work skills from Community Services competency standards and/or undergraduate degree in related field.  Current First Aid qualifications  Program Director: Graham Pringle; MA (Outdoor Ed), G Dip Soc Sci (Psych), Dip Ed (Secondary), C IV Adventure Based Youth Work, and Training and Assessment. |
| Is any special equipment required for the child/young person to undertake this activity safely (eg. helmet, mouth guard, etc)? | Yes.  Canoe, paddles, buoyancy vest, throw rope |
| Who will supply this safety equipment (eg. the department/school/organisation)? | Youth Flourish Outdoors Ltd |
| Is this activity suitable for the child/young person, given his/her age, developmental level and experience? | Yes.  Attachment needs met by presence of familiar youth worker or young person assessed as independently self regulating.  Must be physically able to participate  Activity will be pitched to meet young persons ability to cope with stress and progressed to remain within Zone of Proximal Development |
| Is participation in this activity supportive of any specific needs of the child or young person as identified in his/her case plan? *(Child Safety case plan – electronic copy kept in Child Files/YP folder/Referral section/Dept Case Plan)* | Activity will enable the young person:  to cope with anxiety and stress  to re-orient schemas  to develop self knowledge and physical skills  to enhance esteem |
| What are the insurance provisions of the organisation in the event of an accident? | Youth Flourish Outdoors Ltd has public liability, professional and management insurances.  They require a thorough medical and trauma focussed psychological referral  They provide detailed consent information  They have detailed risk management processes for the activity, environment, group management and individual trauma history |
| What are the views of the child or young person? |  |
| Why is it in the best interests of the child or young person to participate in this activity? | The young person will not be forced or coerced into canoeing. Emotional and physical safety is paramount.  The young person will learn about and improve their responses to stress  They will engage successfully with a social group, developing social skills when dealing with potential stressors. In particular they will work in a team of two in dealing with difficulty steering and making distance.  The activity is delivered with psycho-education to inform the young person about human response to, and recovery from, trauma  They will enjoy an outdoor activity and environment which is intended to assist in emotional regulation, and to lower their arousal set point.  They will develop concentration and physical skills as appropriate to their situation.  They will enhance esteem by participating in an activity that requires steering skills, paddling effort and which will be recognised by self and others as a personal achievement. |