



PRESS RELEASE and STATEMENT from The Institute for Outdoor Learning

22nd August 2006

Subject: HSC Launch Campaign against 'trivial' concerns over safety

Is the 'safety and risk' tide turning?

A campaign is being launched to encourage schools and local authorities to stop worrying about "trivial" concerns over safety.

IOL supports wholeheartedly this campaign and have advocated for many years the safe and adventurous use of the outdoors.

IOL services include publications – the academic Journal of Adventure Education and Outdoor Learning and also the practical outdoor learning magazine Horizons. Each of these publications periodically contains articles and peer reviewed academic papers which theme the question of safety and adventure.

The HSE wants less emphasis on paperwork and more on real risks and says that unnecessary concerns over paperwork and the fear of being sued are being used to cancel school trips and outings.

Instead it is urging people to focus on risks that cause harm and suffering. The HSC is concerned that too much concern over paperwork and bureaucracy will stifle learning and innovation.

A set of guidelines on sensible risk management have been released to coincide with the campaign.

For more in-depth report see: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/5273292.stm>
And the HSE website at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/>

For more information see our website at <http://www.outdoor-learning.org>

Institute for Outdoor Learning

Plumpton Old Hall, Plumpton, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 9NP, UK

Tel: 01768 885800 Fax: 01768 885801

E: institute@outdoor-learning.org W: [outdoor-learning.org](http://www.outdoor-learning.org)