

Kendal Snowsports Club (KSC): Ski Accreditation Scheme: Leader Competence and Insurance Requirements (Groups) 2026/27

The KSC Ski Accreditation Scheme is designed to provide training in order to allow competent people such as teachers, youth leaders and outdoor centre instructors to introduce their own students, service users or clients to the early stages of skiing, using the Kendal artificial snowsports slope.

It is not a nationally recognised award or qualification and is only valid at the Kendal artificial slope facility.

It is however, a good foundation, covering the following, for those wishing to move on to a nationally recognised snowsports qualification in the future:

Ski Accreditation Scheme Remit:

- ***Introducing skiing only to people from the organisation up to but not beyond plough parallel standard at Kendal artificial slope***
- ***Not using moguls or jumps and not from highest 'get off point' of the tow nearest the lodge, or from highest level of the rope tow***
- ***Maximum group numbers 12 all of similar skills standard.***

Before bringing groups to the slope to lead them independently of qualified KSC instructors, individuals must have demonstrated their competence to do so, to the satisfaction of their own employer. This applies equally to unpaid volunteers as well as to paid employees. The process is becoming more difficult for some in the education sector to understand with the introduction of the new school types such as academies, free schools and university technical colleges.

If the school is Community or Voluntary Controlled then the Local Authority i.e. Cumberland Council, Westmorland and Furness Council or Lancashire County Council, is the employer and individuals must demonstrate their competence to the Council's Educational Visits Advisor (EVA), in Cumbria: ~~Matthew Ellis~~ and in Lancashire: Alex Carroll Professional Support Officer will normally manage this process.

If the school is Foundation or Voluntary Aided then the Governing Body is the employer and individuals must usually demonstrate their competence to their Headteacher, who may wish to seek endorsement support from their competent health and safety service provider (with the EVC coordinating as above).

If the school is an Academy, Free School, University Technical College or Independent School, then the employer may be called the Trustees, Governing Body, Board or Proprietors and individuals must usually demonstrate their competence to their Headteacher, who may wish to seek endorsement support from their competent health and safety service provider (with the EVC coordinating as above).

Before individuals undertake the KSC Ski Accreditation Scheme and then bring groups to the slope independently, the employer must determine that it will satisfy their requirements for staff and volunteers to demonstrate competence and that individuals will act only within the above remit and that appropriate insurance is in place and remains valid.

Kendal Snowsports Club has £10million Public Liability Insurance covering the facilities and the activities of its own volunteer workforce, but this insurance **Does Not** extend to the activities of independent leaders for which their own Employer's Liability and Public Liability Insurance must apply.

At present, Cumberland Council, Westmorland and Furness Council and Lancashire County Councils accept completion of the KSC Accreditation Scheme as sufficient to establish the basic competence of snowsports leaders **within the above remit of activities only**. They require a copy of the certificate and a minimum log book of 12 days' worth of recent relevant slope (or similar) activity to be registered through their online systems. This is also the case for all organisations advised by Kym Allan Health & Safety Consultants Ltd. who can be notified through their own online system.

Individuals unsure how this might apply to them should seek advice from their EVC in the first instance. EVCs can seek advice from their Headteacher or EVA.

Note: Individuals who have completed the KSC Ski Accreditation Scheme to satisfy their employer (whether paid or unpaid) cannot instruct anyone on the slopes who is not the responsibility of that employer i.e. they may only instruct pupils, service users, clients etc. of that employer. They also cannot instruct groups of staff or volunteers from the organisation or others such as the parents of pupils etc. from the organisation. They may not instruct groups from other organisations either e.g. pupils from another school etc. Other organisations must contact us themselves for information.*

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Note * It may be possible to make arrangements in the case eg of consortium groups, or a teacher/leader working or volunteering across two or more schools/organisations but we **MUST** be consulted in advance of any booking and hold written evidence of approval of competence and adequate insurance from both/all the employers involved.