



Risk Assessment: Walking the local countryside

Persons at risk - Pupils, staff, helpers and the public

Assessment to be agreed and signed for by:

Position:

Date:

What task, activity or environment is being assessed?	What hazards or dangers?	Degree to potential injury?	Controls to either eliminate or reduce the risk of an accident happening.	Probability of an accident happening?	What is the risk factor?
Walking the local area	Clothing	No Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants should be aware of "fashion" garments which are not suitable for the activity A dress code to be decided before leaving the camp. This would include appropriate footwear, waterproof coats, hats, gloves and trousers/jeans 	Remote	Very Low Risk
	Weather	Minor Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Party leader takes into account the forecast weather conditions before deciding if the walk can go ahead. Appropriate clothing must be worn if the weather forecast is for poor weather conditions, the same would apply for hot conditions. 	Possible	Low Risk
	Transport	Serious Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If privately owned vehicles are used to transport pupils to and from the destination, party leader must ensure that the appropriate Business Insurance has been taken out, the vehicle/s are roadworthy with an up-to-date MOT and is fully taxed. 	Remote	Low Risk

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be no horseplay in the vehicle during the duration of the journey • Children should not leave their seats for any reason whilst the vehicle is in motion. • Booster seats and restraints are the responsibility of the supervising adult/party leader to supply if children that need them are taken on vehicles. 		
	Animals	Serious Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Care should be taken during the Lambing season or when animals are suckling their young, they could be encouraged to charge or become distressed. • Animals showing aggression or appearing to be nervous should be avoided at all times. • Participants should be aware of handling or touching animals in case of contracting infectious diseases and illnesses, especially gastro enteritis, salmonella, leptosporosis and cryptosporidium. • Pregnant women should avoid contact with animals 	Remote	Low Risk
	Environment	No Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No litter, paper, wrappers, tin cans, aluminium, cellophane etc should be discarded but should be taken back to school to be properly disposed of, • No flora or fauna should be removed unless with the express permission of the landowner. • Wilful damage to property and the environment should be actively discouraged and enforced. 	Remote	Very Low Risk
	Terrain	Serious Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Party leader selects suitable terrain for the abilities and fitness of the group, preferably after paying a visit to the area beforehand. • Consideration should be given to use locally recognised nature trails and walks. • Seek local advice to help decide on the most suitable terrain to be covered. 	Remote	Low Risk

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pre-activity briefing should take place informing participants about • potential hazards, constraints and requirements associated with the activity • Extra care should be taken when crossing streams and water logged ground, streams can be prone to flash flooding as well as becoming very slippery. 		
	Communications	No Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fully charged mobile telephone with pre-set emergency numbers should be carried by the party leader at all times. • A pre-arranged rendezvous point should be established before the activity begins in case members of the party become lost or separated. This could be a local landmark, building, point of interest or they can remain static if lost in a wide open space. • Emergency contact details are with the party leader at all times 	Possible	Low Risk
	First Aid	No Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone suffering a wound should encourage the wound to bleed before seeking further medical advice. • Party leader should have basic First Aid knowledge in case of emergency. • A First Aid box to be taken on each walk. • Any medication taken on the walk must be clearly labelled with the pupil's dosage and times when it has to be administered. • Children should self administer Sun Bloc or Sun Cream/s unless written permission is granted by child's parent/carer for staff to assist in this activity. • Staff should not administer any pupil medication unless qualified to do so. 	Possible	Low Risk

	Trespass	Minor Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permission must be granted from the landowner before the group accesses fields etc, failure to do this may result in allegations of trespass. • Party leader must ensure that gates, stiles and cattle grids are left in the same condition they were found and closed 	Possible	Low Risk
	Behaviour	Minor Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A code of practice is drawn up before the visit/s to be read and understood by all participants. • The consumption of alcohol or any other un-prescribed drug or substance is prohibited. • No participants should ride on or access derelict machinery or equipment • Noise pollution to be kept to a minimum 	Possible	Low Risk
	Unwanted attention from the public etc	Minor Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils are told not to talk to strangers • If a member of the public tries to make contact with the pupils the supervising adult intervenes. It maybe necessary to call the Police 		
	Supervision	Serious Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The group leader has overall responsibility at all times • Party leader assess the ages, maturity and fitness of the children before deciding on the numbers of children going on the walk • Any helper or volunteer is fully aware of the pupils in the group and any medical or physical condition that any child has. • Depending on the ages of the children, guidelines for supervising adults to children should be 1 adult for up-to 8 children in years 2 -4, 1 adult for up-to 10 children in years 4 – 6 and 1 adult for 15 children plus in years 7 plus. • Local staff to assess each group before deciding on appropriate supervising 	Possible	Low Risk

			<p>adults.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra supervision maybe necessary for children with SEN or behavioural problems or those who have a history of absconding 		
	Food and Drink	No Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During periods of warm weather all participants should ensure that drinks are available to reduce the risk of dehydration • It maybe necessary to have a rest where all participants can take on nourishment and drink, this should be planned for by the party leader. • A pack lunch should be provided for participants being out of camp on long walks for long periods, alternatively arrangements should be made to ensure refreshments are made available so pupils do not go long periods without food and drink. 	Remote	Very Low Risk
	Walking on the road	Serious Injury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When walking along country lanes, dimly lit roads and narrow lanes, all participants should walk in a single file line and towards oncoming traffic. • High visibility jackets should be worn to warn vehicle drivers that pedestrians are using the road if they are available. • Reflective jackets should be worn by leading adult and adult at the rear of the column. • Torches maybe carried if walkers are to return to base in hours of darkness or dull light conditions 	Possible	Medium Risk

All risk assessments are reviewed annually in September