

7 GENERIC RISK ASSESSMENT - ACTIVITY LED BY SCHOOL – WALKS IN NORMAL COUNTRY Page 1

“Normal Country” includes parks, enclosed farmland and fields. (NOT moorland, mountain and/or where possible to be more than 30 minutes from a road.) Assumes leader with group – otherwise see indirectly supervised walks.

Leader competence must be approved by School visits approval system, with advice from LEA Outdoor Education Adviser (OEA) as necessary. Measures of competence to include evidence of recent and relevant experience in the type of terrain to be walked and/or relevant training (eg BELA, MLTE training).

HAZARD	RISK	PERSONS AT RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	COMMENTS/ ACTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK RATING	INITIAL IF ALL IN PLACE
Falls, drowning	Injury, possible fatality	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader experienced of walking in terrain and of leading groups • Route researched and pre-walked – significant hazards (cliffs, water hazards, quarries etc) avoided or carefully assessed • Weather forecast obtained and conditions monitored; route changed if necessary 	Leader competence approved (see above) Leader completes specific risk assessment for each walk as necessary Ongoing assessment by leader at start and during activity	Low	
Getting lost	Injury	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leader has sufficient navigational skills • Group size as low as possible (good practice is under 20) and well supervised within LEA ratios • Large groups are best split into small groups each with competent leader • Head counts 	Leader competence approved (see above) Briefing of pupils and staff re supervision arrangements	Low	
Animals	Injury, illness	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief group about dangers of infection from animal faeces (E coli) and preventative measures • Avoid contact/injury from large animals (cattle, horses etc) If footpath crosses a field containing these animals assess the situation and act appropriately; e.g. cross quietly as a group or take other route. 	Brief group	Low	

*This generic risk assessment for school use identifies the common hazards and control measures associated with this type of visit or activity. Before undertaking the activity, the **GROUP LEADER** must also make an “**EVENT-SPECIFIC**” assessment of any risks associated with their particular visit, including the **SITE, GROUP, ACTIVITIES, STAFFING & TRAVEL.***

LOCATION OF VISIT:

DATE(S):

ASSESSMENT CARRIED OUT BY: NAME:

SIGNED:

DATE:

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HAZARD	RISK	PERSONS AT RISK	CONTROL MEASURES	COMMENTS/ ACTIONS	RESIDUAL RISK RATING	INITIAL IF ALL IN PLACE
Injury, illness or emergency away from immediate help	Injury, possible fatality	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One leader with each group first aid trained • First aid kit • Gain information about pre existing medical conditions and ensure medication carried • Leaders are briefed and have planned emergency procedures • Communications (mobile phone coverage?) arranged 	Pre-planning of emergency procedures and communications	Low	
Exposure to extreme weather – cold, wet, heat and sun	Injury, possible fatality	Pupils, staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily weather forecast obtained • All participants have suitable footwear, clothing and equipment to match expected conditions 	Parents and pupils given checklist – kit checked before departure	Low	

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