

Risk Assessment for Darwin Centre / Science Festival Event Litter Picking

Location – Various Beaches, Pembrokeshire

Activity Description – A visit to a beach to collect beach litter and consider the origin

Person Responsible – Marten Lewis

People at Risk – Darwin Science Employees, School Pupils, School Representatives

Hazard	Risk	Locations tick those that apply - highlight specific areas on route map if appropriate	Possible Outcome give details if appropriate or note as uncertain or unsure	Probability low/mod./high or note as uncertain or unsure (AAC-assumes appropriate controls)	Severity low/mod/severe/v. severe	At risk	Controls / Action req. additional i.e. not covered already under general comments
Uneven, slippery surfaces	Slip or trip	path foreshore crag scree slope steps	physical injury esp. ankle/knee injury but could easily be more serious	high ankle/knee injuries are a fairly common occurrence during walks	depends on circumstances mostly relatively low	anyone	esp. important to be aware of diagnosis/treatment for ankle/knee injuries and carrying techniques
Litter pickers and Litter	Dirt and disease on litter pickers end	All	Illness, infection	Low	Moderate	All	Gloves or alcohol gel, warned about handling pickers and supervised
Bin bags	Can get heavy Can break	All	Exertion, strain injury	Low	Moderate	All	Only carry a manageable weight or get help
Glass, needles and other sharp	Cuts, grazes	All	Physical injury	Low *AAC	Severe	All	Must use sharps container, do not put sharps in plastic bin bag. Ask adult to help with needles

Difficult terrain & long routes	Over exertion	any where but esp. steep gradients and if carrying heavy load	cardiac arrest asthma attack	moderate	severe, possibly fatal even if appropriate	anyone especially if overweight , unfit or with previous history	special care if anyone declares previous history
Sand dunes & pits	Mass movement wind-blown particles	eroded foredunes & working pits anywhere	burial & asphyxiation eye injury	low *AAC	high low	one or more one or more	do not approach oversteep faces, no tunnelling wind behind if poss.
Sea	freak waves on foreshore & low cliffs during rough weather	esp. on exposed headlands	physical injury hypothermia drowning	low *AAC	mod. *DOC	all	avoid specified locations in stormy weather
	getting cut off by tide	sandbanks & cliffed coastline	hypothermia drowning	low *AAC	mod. unlikely to be fatal	all, esp. non-swim.	check tide tables, local knowledge is essential
Rivers & streams	strong currents deep/cold water raw sewage & waterborne diseases	main rivers during floods fording points & stepping stones/boulders outsides of meanders anywhere	physical injury drowning eg. Weils Disease	low *AAC low *AAC	severe mod.	anyone all	use alternative route rig safety line when measuring deep/fast-flowing river avoid ingestion, use gloves, cover cuts
Saltmarsh creeks & Mudflats	gloopy mud getting cut off/inundated by tide	as specified under hazard	possibility of drowning	low *AAC	low	anyone	use stick to probe
Weather	Cold/wet/windy	esp. hills and exposed coastlines	hypothermia 'windburn'	low *AAC	low *AAC	one or more	continuous monitoring of group
	Hot	esp. in enclosed	heat exhaustion	low *AAC	low	anyone	carry spare cold drinks

		areas e.g. quarry					sun hats, seek shade & cooling draught
	Sunny	esp. unshaded areas	sunburn	low *AAC	low	anyone	apply protective suncream, wear sunglasses & sunhat
	Lightening	esp. exposed ridges & headlands	electrocution	low *AAC	potentially severe	one or more	avoid locations, take approp. action if caught in storm
Road traffic	Strike pedestrian or swerve & collide Frighten horses	esp. on narrow roads, corners and when crossing busy roads	physical injury	low *AAC	potentially severe	participant s drivers vehicles horses	single file, use verge, leader & backmarker to wear high visibility jacket
Driving	Road traffic Accident (RTA)	narrow roads	physical injury vehicle damage	mod *AAC	potentially severe	driver/s participant s pedestrian s	appropriate training & vehicle maintenance
Car Park	Unexpected movement of vehicles, not looking for traffic	Car park	Physical injury	Low *AAC	Potentially severe	All particularly children	Keep the group together and near the coach. Have adult supervisors to control movement of group
Wild & domestic animals, insects, marine life and birds	bites (horse, dog, snake, seal etc) faeces stampeding	anywhere	bites, stings, allergy infections, disease poisoning	mostly low	low	one or more	try to avoid dangerous situations
Plants & Fungii	Inhalation of pollen & spores Skin contact Ingestion	anywhere on land	asthma, allergy blistering, poisoning cancer (e.g. bracken spores)	mostly low	low	one or more	learn to recognise common types do not eat wild plants avoid bracken when in spore

Overall Controls – Pupils to be supervised by adult school representatives during the visit and should wear appropriate clothing.