

Risk Assessment for Darwin Centre / Science Festival Event - River Sampling

Location – Brandy Brook, Newgale

Activity Description – A visit to the brook to sample for wildlife, measure the profile and flow

Person Responsible – Marten Lewis

People at Risk – Darwin Science Employees, Field Study Centre, 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/sev ere/v. severe	At risk	Controls / Action req. additional i.e. not covered already under general comments
Uneven, slippery surfaces	Slip or trip	path foreshore river bed is pebbly steps	physical injury esp. ankle/knee injury but could easily be more serious	moderate ankle/knee injuries	depends on circumstanc es mostly relatively low	anyone	wear appropriate shoes take care on all surfaces esp. where uneven or slippery

Difficult terrain	Over exertion	any where but esp. steep gradients	cardiac arrest asthma attack	moderate	severe, possibly fatal	anyone especially if overweight, unfit or with previous history	special care if anyone declares previous history Keep a steady pace for the groups ability.
Sea	freak waves on foreshore & low cliffs during rough weather	esp. on exposed headlands	physical injury hypothermia drowning	low *AAC	mod.	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	Cold water raw sewage & waterborne diseases	main rivers during floods fording points & stepping stones/boulders outsides of meanders anywhere	physical injury drowning hypothermia e.g. Weils Disease	low *AAC low *AAC	severe mod.	anyone all	Avoid if swollen after rain. The water level will be higher than children's wellies and a full change of warm clothes is requested for each child. The water quality of the stream is very good and feeds onto Newgale which is a blue flag beach
Weather	Cold/wet/windy	esp. hills and exposed coastlines	hypothermia 'windburn'	low *AAC	low *AAC	one or more	continuous monitoring of group if conditions are wet, cold & windy
	Hot	esp. in enclosed areas e.g. quarry	heat exhaustion	low *AAC	low	anyone	carry spare cold drinks 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 appropriate 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	participants 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 participants pedestrians	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.