

Risk assessment

Name of activity, event, and location	1 st Market Bosworth Scout Group – hike	Date of risk assessment	01/10/2023	Name of person doing this risk assessment	Simon Jeffers – Group Lead Volunteer
		Date of next review	01/10/2025 or after significant change or incident		

What hazard have you identified? What are the risks from it?	Who is at risk?	How are the risks already controlled? What extra controls are needed?	What has changed that needs to be thought about and controlled?
A hazard is something that may cause harm or damage. The risk is the harm that may occur from the hazard.	For example: young people, adult volunteers, visitors	Controls are ways of making the activity safer by removing or reducing the risk from it. For example, you may use a different piece of equipment or you might change the way you do the activity.	Keep checking throughout the activity in case you need to change what you're doing or even stop the activity. This is a great place to add comments which will be used as part of the review.
Mistakes when navigating – leading to increased risk of all other hazards. Additional consequences of being lost and exhausted, especially if late or after dark.	All those taking part	Make sure routes are suitable for people's navigational skills and physical capabilities. Provide each group with adequate maps, compasses, route instructions, and spares. Make sure there's at least one sufficiently competent navigator in each group (consider back up). Make sure every group has adequate means of emergency communication with event organisers or is adequately monitored.	
Roads and traffic – injuries from collisions between vehicles and people.	Young people, leaders	Choose a route with minimal use of roads without a footpath. Brief young people on safety around roads and expected behaviour. Adults directly supervise crossing (one on each side of the crossing point where possible). Use designated crossing points if possible. Leaders at the front and back of the group wear hi-visibility jackets. Walk single file and into on coming traffic when on a road.	
Weather – rain before and during the hike, hot weather causing heat exhaustion or sun stroke.	Young people, leaders	Monitor weather forecast in advance, if heavy rain forecast then plan alternative activity. Check weather before the activity starts. Advise participants on suitable clothing to wear and carry (including sun protection and waterproofs). Tell everyone to bring a filled water bottle. If it's very hot, plan water stops and refilling if needed. Check everyone's suitably equipped at the start of the hike and have some spare equipment available. Review route before and during the hike considering weather conditions, for example, if it's too hot or wet to continue. Make sure routes have escape routes or alternatives.	
Terrain – uneven ground, branches, nettles, animals, livestock, and so on.	Young people, leaders	Leaders check routes before the hike and record findings . Leaders physically check any challenging terrain in advance (or plan an alternative route in case it's too challenging for the group).	

You can find more information in the **Safety checklist for leaders** and at scouts.org.uk/safety

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		Advise participants on suitable footwear and check it before the hike. Brief young people on safely navigating the terrain, including avoiding brambles, nettles, and so on. Leaders carry first aid kits and have appropriate training. Encourage everyone to wear long trousers if concerns over foliage or ticks. Leaders monitor livestock and find alternative routes to avoid crossing fields with livestock in.	

Change Log

Date	Change
16th June 2023	Pre walk risks to be documented - Paul Winfield – Scout Assistant Section Leader
01/10/2023	Review date extended to two years or after significant change or incident - Simon Jeffers – Group Lead Volunteer

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