

THE BRIARS

SAMPLE RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A COUNTRYSIDE WALK



Reviews		
Any significant changes-Yes/No	Reviewed by	Date

If Yes, complete a new Risk assessment

If you can reduce the risk further and you have identified specific additional control measures – Continue by:

- Adding additional control measures as appropriate.
- Confirming the risk rating with the added control measures by using (low, medium or high).

Signed and Accepted by the Risk Assessor:

Signed and Accepted by the leaders:

Identified Risks for Countryside Walks

Hazard/Activity Observed	Effect of Hazard	Existing Control Measures to be Implemented <i>(Add/adapt control measures as appropriate)</i>	Confirm Existing Control Measures <i>✓ in place</i> <i>× if not</i>	Risk Rating with Controls H, M or L	Enter who will be responsible for implementing Control Measures Add any additional controls measures needed and who will implement them and when	Risk Rating with Added Controls H, M or L
Strangers/ unknown area	Young people or group getting lost/ abduction	<p>The young people will be given information on the possible hazards associated with the activity.</p> <p>An adult not going on the walk should be given details of the route, an estimated time of return and the contact number for the activity leader.</p> <p>An agreed procedure should exist in the event of the group failing to return.</p> <p>Two mobile phones on different networks will be taken by the leaders.</p> <p>Regular head counts will be taken. Head count will be taken upon arrival back at the parish centre.</p> <p>An emergency procedure should be devised and communicated to all activity leaders in the group.</p>		L	Activity leader, all volunteer leaders	

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Adverse weather	Sunstroke, hypothermia	The leader will check a reliable weather forecast before the walk. A forecast which may put the health or safety of the participants at risk will prompt the leader to consider cancelling the activity. Suitable clothing and/or advice on use of factor 20 + protective sun cream.		L	Leader	
Wet/Uneven paths	Slips, trips	Activity leaders and young people should wear suitable clothing and footwear. The walk will be appropriate to the group's abilities.		L	Leader to inform all about appropriate clothing. Leader to ensure suitable route.	
Traffic	Collisions	Routes should be planned in order to avoid roads as far as possible. The leader will lead the group, and another leader will walk at or near the back of the group. Other adults will walk between the young people.		L/M	Leader, all adults Leaders to wear reflective jackets.	
Lack of first aid	Condition worsening	A suitably stocked First Aid kit will be carried.		L	Leader will carry 1 st aid kit and will also ensure all young people bring their own medication with them – inhalers, epi-pens...	

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Fences (Barbed &/or electrified)	Injury	Routes should be planned in order to avoid contact with wire fencing etc		L	Leader to advise other leaders and young people.	
Dry Stone Walls, styles, gates	Falls, trips, trapped hands	Young people will be told about respecting boundaries, using styles/gates, not climbing on walls.		L	All leaders	