

STONEHENGE, WILTSHIRE

Risk Assessment for education led session

Activity: Stones and Bones: Stonehenge in its landscape Discovery Visit, Key Stage I-3
Site: Stonehenge
Date updated: 15 February 2017
Review date: 1 March 2018
Prepared by: Education Visits Officer, Stonehenge

Description and Notes

This risk assessment covers the Stones and Bones: Stonehenge in its Landscape Discovery Visit from when the group meet our education volunteers at the education room, to the point where the education volunteers end the session. It does not cover the walk from the coach/ car park to the exhibition or education space, this information can be found on the [hazard information sheet](#).

The activity consists of a 120 minute long tour of Stonehenge and the surrounding landscape by English Heritage and National Trust volunteers. During this time the students will have the opportunity to dress up, take part in role play and handle replica artefacts.

Hazard	To whom	Initial Risk S x L = R			Control Measures	Risk after controls		
		S	L	R		S	L	R
Danger presented by moving traffic in the car park, A344 (managed under a Traffic Regulation Order), byway and open ground.	Adults, students, staff	6	2	12	Group warned of the risks, told to check before crossing the road and to stay close together and behind the leader. They are made aware of the possibility of vehicles on open ground – drivers should abide by maximum speed of 20mph.	6	1	6
Accident on the visitor shuttle	Adults, students, staff	6	2	12	The vehicles are regularly checked for safety and staff are fully trained to drive the vehicle. No students are allowed to stand in the visitor shuttle whilst moving.	6	1	6
Contact with electric fence	Adults, students, staff	2	2	4	Group warned not to touch or climb over the electric fences. Education volunteers to try and avoid areas with electric fence and will be informed of any new fences.	2	1	2
Uneven/wet ground: slipping, tripping	Adults, students, staff	3	4	12	The Group Leader is to be made aware of the site and presence of ancient monuments. They should be warned about the steep slopes (mainly on ancient monuments) and the danger of running up and down the Barrows especially in wet conditions. Also that appropriate clothing, notably footwear to be worn and teachers and staff are to supervise students closely.	3	2	6
Raised walkway: falling off	Adults, students, staff	4	2	8	Warned of risk and told to walk carefully staying away from the edges of the walkway.	4	1	4
Rabbit / animal burrows: putting foot down	Adults, students, staff	2	2	4	Regular pest control. Group warned of any hazards that might be around when walking in the landscape.	2	1	2

Thistles and long grass irritating legs	Adults, students, staff	2	4	8	Before their visit, the group are informed to wear long trousers and closed shoes. The grass is regularly grazed by cattle.	2	1	2
Sheep / cattle excrement: picking up, ingesting	Adults, students, staff	2	4	8	Paths to be cleared where possible. Dangers of handling excrement explained. Groups to clean hands before eating. Students supervised closely.	2	2	4
Sharpness and weight of artefacts: hitting, falling on.	Adults, students, staff	4	2	8	Specific guidance given and students are not left unsupervised. Artefacts are not hazardous in themselves.	4	1	4
Livestock	Adults, students, staff	6	2	12	Group are told not to chase animals or to go unnecessarily close to them, particularly if they are with young.	6	1	6
Dehydration, sunstroke	Adults, students, staff	6	4	24	Group are informed in advance that they will need a bottle of water and a sun hat if it is a warm day.	6	1	6
Exposure to extreme weather	Adults, students, staff	6	4	24	Group are informed in advance that they will wear waterproof warm clothing as Salisbury Plain can be extremely cold, wet and windy at times.	6	1	6
Students getting lost / separated from the group	Students	4	2	8	Told to stay close together, behind the leader. Teachers to manage students to ensure that no one is left behind or leaves the group.	4	1	4
Trees/branches falling	Adults, students, staff	6	2	12	Regular surveying and maintenance of trees.	6	1	6

Risk Assessment Score overall = 4.6

Risk Assessments for Discovery Visits

Risk assessments are worked out by identifying possible hazards and putting in place measures to significantly reduce the likelihood of the hazard occurring. Once this has been done a simple calculation which multiplies the hazard score for the activity by the chance of it happening gives a risk assessment score. A low score signifies little or no risk; a high score would indicate the activity is potentially dangerous.

Hazard Severity:

1. No risk of injury
2. Slight risk (minor injury requiring first aid)
3. Moderate risk (injury resulting in 3 days off work/school)
4. High risk (resulting in a major injury)
5. Very high risk (causing death or serious injury to an individual)
6. Extremely high risk (causing multiple deaths and widespread destruction)

Multiplied by

Likelihood of Occurrence:

1. Not likely (only under freak conditions)
2. Possible (if other factors are present)
3. Quite possible (if other factors precipitate it)
4. Likely (with other factors or carelessness)
5. Very likely (an accident waiting to happen)
6. Certain

Risk factor of 8 or less: Any activity that scores 8 or under has an acceptable risk factor.

Risk factor between 8 and 12: Any activity scoring between 8 and 12 has a level of risk that may be tolerable but measures must be taken to reduce the risk.

Risk factor of 13 or more: Any activity scoring 13 or more has an unacceptable risk and shouldn't be done.

The numerical scale used is to allow comparisons of risk levels only. No literal meaning is implied by the scoring level.

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