



Bradford Peverell, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 9SD

**Activity Specific Risk Benefit Assessment - Maiden Castle Walk & Guided Tours**

This risk benefit assessment is to be read in conjunction with the 'Dynamic & Generic' risk benefit assessment.

Maiden Castle is easily accessible either by coach and then you have the option of a guided tour of the Bronze Age settlement or you can walk from New Barn to Maiden Castle. The walk is mainly along footpaths and bridleways but there are three road crossings, all of these crossings are assessed before any attempt to cross the road.

**How will young people BENEFIT from this activity?**

The group will walk across different terrains and farm land identifying different uses along the way, working together to safely cross busy roads and support other group members. The group will explore a large Iron Age Hill Fort looking at the remains of a Roman building and discussing why it was built and who could have lived there. The group will circumnavigate Maiden Castle to understand the true size and appreciate the construction techniques used during its development.

Risk Assessment Completed By: Matthew Dear		Date of last update: September 2023 Review date before: September 2024	
Risk	Who might be affected	How risk is controlled	Overall risk rating: L/M/H
Medical Conditions	Pupils & Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enquire about medical conditions on pre- booking information.</li> <li>Medications for staff and pupil's medical conditions need to always be accessible.</li> <li>Have sturdy containers available to transport and safeguard medicines.</li> <li>Ensure the planned activity considers medical conditions of all the participants.</li> </ul>	L
Injuries & Infections	Pupils & Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be alert for potentially infected areas; alert the group to the hazard. Emphasise the remote possibility of infection.</li> <li>Always clean and cover open wounds</li> <li>Avoid unnecessary contact with suspect water, areas, flotsam, jetsam, rubbish and animal faeces.</li> <li>Do not pick any berries/seed pods/flowers etc</li> <li>Alert pupils to nettles, brambles and other plants liable to cause injury or discomfort.</li> <li>No sticks should be picked up or carried.</li> <li>Alert pupils to be aware of branches 'whipping back' in woodland areas.</li> <li>Hands should be washed thoroughly before eating and/or drinking.</li> <li>Ensure that all members of the group are aware that they need to keep water bottles clean and off the ground especially if they are 'sports top' bottles.</li> <li>Consult doctor if any symptoms arise</li> </ul>	L



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member of New Barn staff is to be available for an emergency pick up using the New Barn vehicle where required.</li> <li>• Rangers to update the management team of any issues or causes of concern.</li> </ul>	
Road Traffic	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alert the group to all potential hazards in briefing.</li> <li>• Pavements, where present, will be used.</li> <li>• Face oncoming traffic where there are no pavements, keeping in single file, and on the approach of a right hand bend the front member of staff to go ahead to warn approaching traffic.</li> <li>• Staff will be present front and rear of group, wearing fluorescent waistcoats.</li> <li>• Staff will walk on the outside of the group, nearest the traffic.</li> <li>• Pelican and Zebra crossings will be used where available.</li> <li>• Where no crossings are available, suitable crossing places are identified.</li> <li>• The group will be briefed at the start of the activity and again at each road crossing.</li> <li>• No road will be crossed without checking that the group knows exactly what is to happen.</li> <li>• Some roads will be crossed in lined up groups, others in one group.</li> <li>• Traffic will be stopped where appropriate.</li> <li>• No one will cross a road until the lead New Barn ranger gives the instruction, or tells a member of the group staff to do so.</li> </ul>	M
Losing a Pupil	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure each adult knows which pupils they are responsible for.</li> <li>• Ensure each pupil knows which adult is responsible for him or her.</li> <li>• Regular head counts are carried out to ensure that the whole group is present.</li> <li>• Ensure that all pupils know what to do if they become separated from the group: have a meeting place to return to or an instruction to remain where they are if separated.</li> <li>• Everyone involved in the activity should understand the supervision arrangements and expectations.</li> <li>• No pupil should ever be on their own.</li> </ul>	L
Losing a Pupil	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>		
Sun, Heat & Hypothermia	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weather conditions and forecast will be assessed prior to the activity starting.</li> <li>• Seek shade to cool off if required.</li> <li>• Prepare for worse case situations in regard to the weather in the activity period.</li> <li>• Preparations will be made for increasing sun and heat.</li> <li>• New Barn staff to study the daily weather forecast prior to the activity starting and advise group leaders of any possible problems.</li> </ul>	L



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure group are adequately dressed for the conditions. (Hat, sun cream, sunglasses, adequate coverage but less layers of clothing)</li> <li>• Drink and encourage the group to drink water to avoid dehydration.</li> <li>• Consider taking extra water or arranging for a member of New Barn staff to bring water to a safe meeting point.</li> <li>• Be aware of the dangers of over exertion.</li> <li>• Assess weather conditions if required.</li> <li>• New Barn staff to study the daily weather forecast prior to the activity starting and advise group leaders of any possible problems.</li> <li>• Ensure group are adequately dressed for the prevailing conditions.</li> <li>• Consider taking extra clothing, energy food etc.</li> </ul>	
Fatigue & Hunger	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When activities are planned the fact that both pupils and staff can become fatigued is considered.</li> <li>• Pupils will be supervised to ensure that they eat and drink at appropriate times</li> <li>• New Barn staff to carry extra chocolate biscuits.</li> </ul>	L
Livestock, Fences & Stiles	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No animals are to be approached or touched.</li> <li>• If any member of the group encounters a deceased animal they must use antiseptic gel to clean their hands.</li> <li>• No animals will be chased or caught.</li> <li>• Group will be advised to not try and climb over fences.</li> <li>• Group to be made aware of barbed wire and the dangers.</li> <li>• Group will be instructed on how to safely cross a stile.</li> <li>• An adult will be present at every stile and assist where needed.</li> <li>• Group members are to stand well back when crossing a stile.</li> </ul>	L
Whilst on Maiden Castle	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group to be made aware of any slippery surfaces especially wet and damp chalk paths.</li> <li>• Group advised to not slide down or climb any of the ramparts.</li> <li>• Group to always remain within sight of the New Barn staff.</li> <li>• Group told to look out for any trip hazards.</li> <li>• Everyone is to look out for dog faeces and always avoid it where possible.</li> </ul>	L
Weather	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weather conditions and forecast will be assessed.</li> <li>• All persons to be dressed accordingly for the weather and conditions expected.</li> <li>• In the event of heavy fog, the walk will be abandoned and all persons will be safely escorted back to New Barn.</li> </ul>	L



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Communication	<b>Pupils &amp; Staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fully charged mobile phones to be carried by the New Barn staff.</li><li>• Regular contact made with staff at the centre in bad weather conditions.</li><li>• In the event of any incidents these must be reported to New Barn staff immediately.</li></ul>	L
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