



Bradford Peverell, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 9SD

Area Specific Risk Benefit Assessment - Countryside Activities

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

This risk benefit assessment covers any Nature or Countryside based activities that our staff lead at New Barn Field Centre.

It also covers any risks groups may encounter whilst walking in their own time.

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
Livestock	Staff / Pupils & livestock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group will be advised on the procedure for walking through fields with livestock during the briefing talk. If livestock are loose in the field then the risk of crossing will be assessed. All group members need for calm and quiet. No running by any person so as not to cause the animals distress. Gates will be kept under control to stop livestock escaping. Staff will be at the head of the group and adults will walk on the outside of the group, nearest the livestock. Pupils will walk alongside any hedge or fence line where available. Extra caution is taken with livestock and their young. Always cross a field by taking the shortest route to a hedge. No livestock in fields should be stroked or touched etc. 	L
Barbed wire	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group will be advised of its dangers in briefing before the walk. This will also be reenforced when coming across barbed wire. Explain that crossing fences is not permitted. 	L
Electric fences	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group will be advised of dangers in briefing. This will be reenforced when coming across electric fences. No sticks or stones etc to be thrown or prodded at fence. No person is to touch or attempt to touch an electric fence. 	L
Stiles	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group will be made aware of importance of leaving a gap between each person. 	L



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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group will be made aware that you cannot jump over a stile. • A member of staff will supervise the crossing of every pupil over the style. 	
Infections	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As in generic risk assessment. 	L
Farm buildings and yards	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group will be advised on procedure of walking through farmyards in the briefing. • Group will be kept together & preferably in pairs. • Keep out of areas with parked up machinery. • Be aware of any moving machinery & ensure it is safe to proceed and the machinery has moved or stopped. • Be aware of livestock, brief pupils that they are not to go up to, or into, sheds/barns etc to see livestock. • No livestock in yard or fields should be touched. • Loose livestock - see livestock section above. 	L
Dogs	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group to be advised about what to do when encountering a dog during the briefing. • Do not attempt to stroke any dog, even if the owner says it is fine - dogs can react differently when large numbers of children are around. • In farmyards - ignore any dogs. • Staff to position themselves between dogs and pupils, if dogs appear agitated. • All members of group to fold arms when meeting dogs. 	L
Injuries	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As in generic risk assessment. 	L
Steep slopes	Staff & Pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alert group to the hazard. • Avoid running. • Take extra care in wet or icy weather. • Try to fall backwards rather than forwards. 	L