



School Risk Assessment Pack

At the Wear Rivers Trust, the safety of all children and adults, involved in our activities, is paramount.

Please select the corresponding risk assessment for your trip from the booklet below. The overall risk rating is based on the judgement of the accessor after precautions have been made to mitigate the risk.

Please note: *The following risk assessments are only to be used by schools as a guide, as you may wish to conduct your own risk assessments, using the information given to assist you.*



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Auckland Park: Risk Assessment

General Information					Location Information	
Risk Assessment for:	Auckland Park				Site Location:	Auckland Tower, Marketplace, Bishop Auckland (entrance)
Risk Assessment carried out by:	Philip Parker				Site Postcode:	DL14 7NR
Last Updated:	20/08/26				Parking Site What 3 Words location:	then.digit.rewarding
Next review date:	August 2027				Work Site What 3 Words location 1 (River Gaunless):	slot.goad.angel
Designated First Aiders	Philip Parker	Katie Hook	Jack Rivers	Hannah Clow	Work Site What 3 Words location 2 (Coundon Burn)	sped.humble.prancing
First Aider Phone Numbers:	07456928171	07878474951	07481262310	07435663956	Nearest Hospital(s):	University Hospital of North Durham (11.8 miles from entrance) Darlington Memorial Hospital (14.1 miles from entrance)
Medical Information						
Have participants been asked if they have any medical conditions prior to the event?					Yes	
If no, write 'N/A'. If yes, please disclose additional measures that will be put in place:					Follow procedure as agreed with school staff	

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Weather	Hypothermia, heatstroke, sunburn	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check weather report • Recommend suitable clothing, inform school • Recommend sun cream & sun hats if necessary • Monitor working conditions and if people are in discomfort, stop work	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Slips, trips and falls	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, muscle strains	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of trip hazards including uneven footpaths, changes in underfoot conditions on walks and long grass • Tell children not to run during the trip • Tell children not to go in front of group leader unless instructed to do so • Reminder that stiles and footpaths may be even more slippery if wet and muddy • Advise suitable footwear before trip • Wellies available to borrow-school should have stated sizes before trip	• WRT staff	M
Falling into river	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that some areas of river are not fenced off in H&S talk • Tell group to stay on path and keep left, in single file formation, when instructed. This is to be reinforced by WRT staff member when heading from river cliff to river island, where the footpath is raised and narrows • Remind children no pushing/shoving or overtaking • Remind children to always stay behind group leader	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure all cuts are covered • Ensure everyone uses hand washing facilities, especially before lunch/eating • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth, nose or eyes after having them in watercourses until they have washed them thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book • Advise participants that if feverish symptoms (or similar health problems) develop within a week of participation, they should see their GP to check for leptospirosis • Check for signs of sewage outflow in River Gaunless. If any is spotted, WRT staff to keep children out of this watercourse	• WRT staff	L

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Water: rivers	Waterborne disease, drowning, head bumps, loss of consciousness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check river levels are safe before children enter watercourse • Make children aware of the hazard including steep banks • Tell children not to go near river unless accompanied or authorised as part of an activity • Before entering a watercourse, children will receive a water safety talk • Water safety instructions include keeping wide stance on riverbed, moving slowly, cautiously and sensibly, with arms of pockets and out to assist balance. Children must look at where they are placing feet carefully and must not stand on protruding rocks within the watercourse	• WRT staff	L
Tick-borne disease	Infection, illness (Lyme disease)	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Advise participants to not wear shorts prior to trip to reduce risk of ticks on legs. Inform school long sleeves tops are advisable if weather permits • Advise participants that if they find a tick on their body to visit the GP to have it removed • The presence of a bulls-eye rash around a tick bite may indicate Lyme disease and would require additional medical attention • If a bull's-eye rash is found, or a participant becomes unwell with unexplained feverish or flu-like symptoms within 3 weeks, the GP should be made aware of the possibility of Lyme disease • Note: WRT staff have observed deer on this site previously	• WRT staff	L
Overhanging trees and other undergrowth	Cuts and scratches, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of branch hazards • Avoid routes which are too hazardous and inaccessible • WRT staff members monitor new overhanging branches/tree growth on route and inform children	• WRT staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Dogs off leads	Risk of dog attack; bites, infections	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Make children aware that dogs may be off leads • Instruct children to ignore dogs and not touch • If pupil is concerned about behaviour of dog, they must inform WRT staff member or teacher immediately • Remind children to watch out for and avoid dog poo	• WRT staff	L
Moving vehicles on track/road	Injury from vehicles, serious injuries, fatality	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform pupils that they must always stay behind group leader • Ensure adults stop any traffic safely before allowing children to cross • Once entering Auckland Park, this is not accessible for public vehicles; however, working vehicles such as buggies and diggers may be travelling along the public rights of way. Inform group in H&S talk • Make everyone aware of possible hazard and supervise children • Ensure an adult is at the front and back of groups of children • If a vehicle is approaching, children will be instructed to move to one side/leave the path, ideally away from the watercourse	• WRT staff	M
Members of the public	Injury, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that Auckland Park is open to members of the public upon arrival. • Ask children to be courteous and considerate towards members of the public • Inform children that if a member of the public is acting strangely, they should inform an adult immediately.	• WRT staff	L
Stile & gates	Slips, trips, falls, cuts, scratches, twisted ankles, broken bones	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Stop group before they arrive at a stile or gate • Inform group of the correct technique to climb stile: one person at a time; step over sideways one leg at a time; always hold supporting post with two hands in case footing is lost • Inform children to not jump off the stile • Inform children that wooden surfaces might be slippery • Ask WRT staff member or teacher to stand by stile to assist/monitor children going over • WRT staff member, pupil or school staff member asked by WRT staff member to hold gate open to avoid trapped fingers/head bumps etc. Note: Only one stile on site: by confluence of Gaunless & Wear, which will not be crossed in high flow	• WRT staff • School staff	L

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Handling equipment	Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, eye damage.	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check plan and equipment being used is appropriate for the needs/age of children • Check all equipment before use. Do not use any damaged or faulty equipment • Report any damaged or faulty equipment to WRT staff so that replacements can be ordered • Advise teachers prior to trip of the advised adult to pupil ratios, as specified in the 'School Information Pack' • Anyone using equipment unsafely will be asked to stop the activity and/or removed from the watercourse • Always consider participants' personal needs/disabilities and make adjustments where needed	• WRT staff	L
Rock measuring	Muscle strains, cuts, bruises, broken bones, head trauma, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT to demonstrate safe and proper use of callipers safely • Inform children that callipers are to be carried by side when not in use to reduce risk of poking other people • Inform group that rocks must be placed back into the watercourse carefully, not thrown or dropped back in as this could cause injury. If rocks are thrown, children may hear a warning whistle and be asked to exit the watercourse • Inform group that any rocks bigger than the callipers should not be picked up as they may be too heavy and could cause injury	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Kick sampling	Splinters, cuts and wounds, bumps, bruises, drowning, hypothermia, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform/reinforce following water safety guidelines strictly as previously mentioned when they arrived at watercourse • Check nets and other riverfly equipment before use • Outline potential danger of nets to group, including their weight and metal rim. Demonstrate how to carry net with heavy part downwards and by your side or resting on the riverbed • No more than four pupils per one WRT staff member to be kick sampling in river at same time • Inform children of correct use of equipment, including not squirting water with pipettes or flicking with spoons • If any equipment breaks (E.g. plastic spoons), children must inform WRT staff	• WRT staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Environment	Injuries and lost children	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Explain at the start of the activity that group will be walking away from toilets at Auckland Tower, where they will return to at lunch time • Explain where toilets are (Auckland Tower/Civic Hall) and the outside toilet rules • Explain children are not to go to the toilets without a supervising adult • Leaders to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet or Crocs. • Leaders to ask the young people not to run down the hill if the grass is wet as could be slippery and to not run in the woods due to rocks and tree trunks/roots • Leaders to explain not to eat anything found in the park, for example, wild mushrooms or berries	• WRT staff	L
First Aid	Injuries or accidents that cannot be dealt with adequately	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure there is a qualified first aider present throughout the activity • Ensure there is a First Aid kit available during the activity and one per group if groups are planning on splitting	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Unstable riverbanks	Injury from falling, drowning, fatal injuries, hypothermia, broken bones	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• No-one to go right to the edge of riverbanks • Reinforce no pushing/shoving or messing around • WRT staff member informs children where to stand when approaching riverbanks, on river walk. This is made clear to the group through arm signals and informing children they must not go beyond where WRT staff member is standing • Inform children to not enter fenced areas unless lead by an adult or informed to do so	• WRT staff	L
Contact with farm animals	Cuts, bruises, broken bones	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that they might be walking through fields with sheep in • Reinforce the need to stay behind group leader • Ask children to keep noise to a minimum when passing farm animals to reduce risk of causing stress	• WRT staff	L



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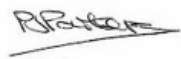
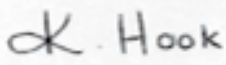


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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Mushrooms & fungi	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, poisoning, paralysis, death	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children of the presence of wild mushrooms, particularly when trips are taking place in the autumn • Remind children of the dangers of unknown mushrooms/fungi and the importance of not touching any • If a child touches a mushroom, they should wash their hands as soon as possible and keep them away from their mouths, noses and eyes before doing so. • If a child is suspected to have eaten a mushroom, call 111 for poisons advice. The mushroom may need to be collected and taken with the child for identification purposes. • If a child has eaten a mushroom and becomes unwell, call 999. • A working phone should be kept with the group at all times.	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Auckland Tower <i>Not included in all trips</i>	Slips, trips & falls, broken bones, fatal injury	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Brief children at bottom of stairs leading up to tower to not run and stay go up in single file order, keeping to the left, to prevent any pushing. This also allows members of the public past when required • Inform children not to overtake, push or shove • Inform group not to climb on railings or lean over edges on viewing platform. Misbehaviour will lead to pupil(s) being sent back down with a member of staff • Stagger teachers and support staff at regular intervals within group, including one at front and back • Inform staff and children of precautions and importance of always keeping to these • Inform children to not wander off at any time and to keep within designated viewing platform/areas • Check wind and weather conditions prior to ascent	• WRT staff	M/H

Accessor Signature		Date Assessment Conducted	20.08.2026
Checked by Signature		Dated Checked By	20.08.2026



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Chester-le-Street: Risk Assessment

General Information					Location Information	
Risk Assessment for:	Chester le Street, Riverside Park				Site Location:	Riverside Park, Ropery Ln, Chester-Le-Street
Risk Assessment carried out by:	Philip Parker				Site Postcode:	DH3 3PL
Last Updated:	20/08/26				Parking Site What 3 Words location (Ropery Lane North Car Park):	calm.flank.back
Next review date:	August 2027				Work Site What 3 Words location 1 (pedestrian bridge at confluence of Chester Burn & Wear):	fork.these.scale
Designated First Aiders	Philip Parker	Katie Hook	Jack Rivers	Hannah Clow	Work Site What 3 Words location 2 (toilets at Riverside Cafe)	tender.solved.mobile
First Aider Phone Numbers:	07456928171	07878474951	07481262310	07435663956	Nearest Hospital(s):	University Hospital of North Durham (5.6 miles from entrance)
Defibrillator location:	cliff.dreams.saving (on wall on side of Riverside Café to the left of the café opening, near public toilets)					
Medical Information						
Have participants been asked if they have any medical conditions prior to the event?					Yes	
If no, write 'N/A'. If yes, please disclose additional measures that will be put in place:					Follow procedure as agreed with school staff	

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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Public Toilets	Injury, emotional harm, infection	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ask children to be aware of other members of the public using toilets • Member of staff to check the toilets are clear of any issues (e.g. spoils, litter, drug paraphernalia) before children enter • Inform children that if a member of the public is acting strangely, to inform an adult immediately • If members of the public are happy to wait for the toilet, encourage and thank them for doing so	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Bird Flu/Contact with wildlife	Bites, disease	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to monitor any local reports of bird flu outbreaks. If WRT staff are aware of reports of bird flu, the trip will be postponed, cancelled or moved to another of our sites. • WRT staff to check for dead/sick birds before children arrive on site • Inform children that they will likely walk past swans, geese, herons and ducks; they should not directly approach or touch any birds • Reinforce need to stay behind group leader • Ask children to keep noise to a minimum when passing animals to reduce causing stress	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Weather	Hypothermia, heatstroke, sunburn	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check weather report • Recommend suitable clothing, inform school • Recommend sun cream & sun hats if necessary • Monitor working conditions and if people are in discomfort, stop work	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Slips, trips and falls	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, muscle strains	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of trip hazards including uneven footpaths, changes in underfoot conditions on walks and long grass • Tell children not to run during the trip • Tell children not to go in front of group leader unless instructed to do so • Tell children to stay on PROW until we reach bridge at confluence of Chester/Cong Burn and Wear • Reminder that footpaths may be even more slippery if wet and muddy • Advise suitable footwear before trip • Wellies available to borrow-school should have stated sizes before trip	• WRT staff	M

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Falling into river	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that most areas of river are not fenced off in H&S talk • Tell group to stay on path and keep left, in single file formation, when instructed, following the leader • Remind children no pushing/shoving or overtaking • Remind children to always stay behind group leader • Group leader carries emergency throw float • Inform children they are only allowed in a designated section of the river when instructed and supervised by WRT staff member	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure all cuts are covered • Ensure everyone uses hand washing facilities, especially before lunch/eating • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth, nose or eyes after having them in watercourses until they have washed them thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book • Advise participants that if feverish symptoms (or similar health problems) develop within a week of participation, they should see their GP to check for leptospirosis • Check for signs of sewage outflow in river. If any is spotted, WRT staff to keep children out of the watercourse	• WRT staff	L
Water: rivers	Waterborne disease, drowning, head bumps, loss of consciousness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check river levels are safe before children enter watercourse • Make children aware of the hazard including steep banks • Tell children not to go near river unless accompanied or authorised as part of an activity • Before entering a watercourse, children will receive a water safety talk • Water safety instructions include keeping wide stance on riverbed, moving slowly, cautiously and sensibly, with arms of pockets and out to assist balance. Children must look at where they are placing feet carefully and must not stand on protruding rocks within the watercourse	• WRT staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Tick-borne disease	Infection, illness (Lyme disease)	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Advise participants to not wear shorts prior to trip to reduce risk of ticks on legs. Inform school long sleeves tops are advisable if weather permits - Advise participants that if they find a tick on their body to visit the GP to have it removed - The presence of a bulls-eye rash around a tick bite may indicate Lyme disease and would require additional medical attention - If a bull's-eye rash is found, or a participant becomes unwell with unexplained feverish or flu-like symptoms within 3 weeks, the GP should be made aware of the possibility of Lyme disease - Note: WRT staff have observed deer on this site previously	WRT staff	L
Dogs off leads	Risk of dog attack; bites, infections	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Make children aware that dogs may be off leads - Instruct children to ignore dogs and not touch - If pupil is concerned about behaviour of dog, they must inform WRT staff member or teacher immediately - Remind children to watch out for and avoid dog poo	WRT staff	L
Moving vehicles	Injury from vehicles, serious injuries, fatality	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Children line up on pavement before crossing road from Ropery Lane North car park - School staff and/or WRT staff members stand in middle of road when safe and gesture to group when it is safe to cross - No vehicles are permitted inside C-L-S Riverside Park - Make everyone aware of any possible hazard and supervise children – cyclists and runners are common - Ensure an adult is at the front and back of group	WRT staff	M
Members of the public	Injury, emotional harm	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Inform children that Congburn Nurseries is open to members of the public upon arrival. - Ask children to be courteous and considerate towards members of the public - Inform children that if a member of the public is acting strangely, they should inform an adult immediately.	WRT staff	L

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Handling equipment	Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, eye damage.	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check plan and equipment being used is appropriate for the needs/age of children • Check all equipment before use. Do not use any damaged or faulty equipment • Report any damaged or faulty equipment to WRT staff so that replacements can be ordered • Advise teachers prior to trip of the advised adult to pupil ratios, as specified in the 'School Information Pack' • Anyone using equipment unsafely will be asked to stop the activity and/or removed from the watercourse • Always consider participants' personal needs/disabilities and make adjustments where needed	• WRT staff	M
Rock measuring	Muscle strains, cuts, bruises, broken bones, head trauma, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT to demonstrate safe and proper use of callipers safely • Inform children that callipers are to be carried by side when not in use to reduce risk of poking other people • Inform group that rocks must be placed back into the watercourse carefully, not thrown or dropped back in as this could cause injury. If rocks are thrown, children may hear a warning whistle and be asked to exit the watercourse • Inform group that any rocks bigger than the callipers should not be picked up as they may be too heavy and could cause injury	• WRT staff	L
Kick sampling	Splinters, cuts and wounds, bumps, bruises, drowning, hypothermia, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform/reinforce following water safety guidelines strictly as previously mentioned when they arrived at watercourse • Check nets and other riverfly equipment before use • Outline potential danger of nets to group, including their weight and metal rim. Demonstrate how to carry net with heavy part downwards and by your side or resting on the riverbed • No more than four pupils per one WRT staff member to be kick sampling in river at same time • Inform children of correct use of equipment, including not squirting water with pipettes or flicking with spoons • If any equipment breaks (E.g. plastic spoons), children must inform WRT staff	• WRT staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Environment	Injury, emotional harm	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Explain at the start of the activity that group will be walking away from toilets at Riverside Café, but will return to them at lunch time - Explain where toilets are (to left of café entrance) - Explain children are not to visit toilets without asking permission from a supervising adult first - Leaders to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet or Crocs - Leaders to explain not to eat anything found by the sides of footpaths (E.g. wild mushrooms or berries) - Site location may be subject to change. The river and surrounding area will be checked on the morning of the trip, prior to the class arrival, to check water levels and any changes to the site (E.g. bank subsidence or fallen trees due to storms).	WRT staff	L
First Aid	Injuries or accidents that cannot be dealt with adequately	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Ensure there is a qualified first aider present throughout the activity - Ensure there is a First Aid kit available during the activity	- WRT staff - School staff	L
Unstable riverbanks	Injury from falling, drowning, fatal injuries, hypothermia, broken bones	- WRT staff - School children - School staff	- No-one to go right to the edge of riverbanks - Reinforce no pushing, shoving or messing around - WRT staff member informs children where to stand when approaching riverbanks. This is made clear to the group through arm signals and informing children they must not go beyond where WRT staff member is standing - Inform children to not enter fenced areas unless lead by an adult or informed to do so - On measurement/kick sampling site (work site location 1), children must enter and exit river on gradual slope on the right-hand side. Here both the Wear and Chester/Cong Burn can be easily and safely accessed	WRT staff	L



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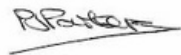
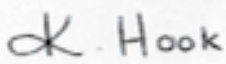


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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Bridges	Falls, slips, head trauma, broken bones, drowning	- WRT employees - Children - School staff	- Inform group that bridge is wooden so might be slippery - When on bridge they must not jump - No climbing/leaning over on fenced part of bridge - School staff members stand at either end of bridge, where fencing stops to avoid any children slipping/falling/wandering off. This also allows adults to monitor members of the public needing to cross bridge and inform children to allow space	- WRT staff - School staff	M
Mushrooms & funghi	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, poisoning, paralysis, death	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Inform children of the presence of wild mushrooms, particularly when trips are taking place in the autumn - Remind children of the dangers of unknown mushrooms/fungi and the importance of not touching any - If a child touches a mushroom, they should wash their hands as soon as possible and keep them away from their mouths, noses and eyes before doing so. - If a child is suspected to have eaten a mushroom, call 111 for poisons advice. The mushroom may need to be collected and taken with the child for identification purposes. - If a child has eaten a mushroom and becomes unwell, call 999. - A working phone should be kept with the group at all times.	- WRT staff - School staff	M

Accessor Signature		Date Assessment Conducted	20.08.2026
Checked by Signature		Dated Checked By	20.08.2026



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Congburn Nurseries: Risk Assessment

General Information					Location Information	
Risk Assessment for:	Congburn Nurseries & surrounding woodland				Site Location:	Congburn Nurseries, Edmonsley, County Durham
Risk Assessment carried out by:	Philip Parker				Site Postcode:	DH7 6DY
Last Updated:	20/08/26				Parking Site What 3 Words location:	nibbled.crystal.unfit
Next review date:	August 2027				Work Site What 3 Words location 1 (Bridge over Cong Burn):	objective.dormant.animates
Designated First Aiders	Philip Parker	Katie Hook	Jack Rivers	Hannah Clow	Work Site What 3 Words location 2 (Kick Sampling site)	warnings.brittle.purse
First Aider Phone Numbers:	07456928171	07878474951	07481262310	07435663956	Nearest Hospital(s):	University Hospital of North Durham (4.3 miles from entrance)

Medical Information	
Have participants been asked if they have any medical conditions prior to the event?	Yes
If no, write 'N/A'. If yes, please disclose additional measures that will be put in place:	Follow procedure as agreed with school staff

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Weather	Hypothermia, heatstroke, sunburn	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check weather report • Recommend suitable clothing, inform school • Recommend sun cream & sun hats if necessary • Monitor working conditions and if people are in discomfort, stop work	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Slips, trips and falls	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, muscle strains	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of trip hazards including uneven footpaths, changes in underfoot conditions on walks and long grass • Tell children not to run during the trip • Tell children not to go in front of group leader unless instructed to do so • Reminder that footpaths may be even more slippery if wet and muddy • Advise suitable footwear before trip • Wellies available to borrow-school should have stated sizes before trip	• WRT staff	M
Falling into river	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that some areas of river are not fenced off in H&S talk • Tell group to stay on path and keep to one side, in single file formation, when instructed. This is to be reinforced on walk from bridge to kick sampling site as the path narrows here • Remind children no pushing/shoving or overtaking • Remind children to always stay behind group leader • Due to narrow nature of path, group leader to stop at regular intervals to ensure that the group stays together	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure all cuts are covered • Ensure everyone uses hand washing facilities, especially before lunch/eating • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth, nose or eyes after having them in watercourses until they have washed them thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book • Advise participants that if feverish symptoms (or similar health problems) develop within a week of participation, they should see their GP to check for leptospirosis • Check for signs of sewage outflow in river. If any is spotted, WRT staff to keep children out of the watercourse	• WRT staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Water: rivers	Waterborne disease, drowning, head bumps, loss of consciousness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check river levels are safe before children enter watercourse • Make children aware of the hazard including steep banks • Tell children not to go near river unless accompanied or authorised as part of an activity • Before entering a watercourse, children will receive a water safety talk • Water safety instructions include keeping wide stance on riverbed, moving slowly, cautiously and sensibly, with arms of pockets and out to assist balance. Children must look at where they are placing feet carefully and must not stand on protruding rocks within the watercourse	• WRT staff	L
Tick-borne disease	Infection, illness (Lyme disease)	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Advise participants to not wear shorts prior to trip to reduce risk of ticks on legs. Inform school long sleeves tops are advisable if weather permits • Advise participants that if they find a tick on their body to visit the GP to have it removed • The presence of a bulls-eye rash around a tick bite may indicate Lyme disease and would require additional medical attention • If a bull's-eye rash is found, or a participant becomes unwell with unexplained feverish or flu-like symptoms within 3 weeks, the GP should be made aware of the possibility of Lyme disease • Note: WRT staff have observed deer on this site previously	• WRT staff	L
Overhanging trees and other undergrowth	Cuts and scratches, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of branch hazards • Avoid routes which are too hazardous and inaccessible • WRT staff members monitor new overhanging branches/tree growth on route and inform children	• WRT staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Dogs off leads	Risk of dog attack; bites, infections	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Make children aware that dogs may be off leads • Instruct children to ignore dogs and not touch • If pupil is concerned about behaviour of dog, they must inform WRT staff member or teacher immediately • Remind children to watch out for and avoid dog poo	• WRT staff	L
Moving vehicles in garden centre car park	Injury from vehicles, serious injuries, fatality	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• The woodland at Congburn Nurseries is not accessible for public vehicles; however, the garden centre car park can be busy and often features moving vehicles • Make everyone aware of any possible hazard and supervise children • Ensure an adult is at the front and back of groups of children • If possible, bus occupants to get off bus in quieter area of car park to minimise risk • The car park will be treated as if it was a road. Children will be stopped and should not cross until instructed by an adult.	• WRT staff	M
Members of the public	Injury, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that Congburn Nurseries is open to members of the public upon arrival. • Ask children to be courteous and considerate towards members of the public • Inform children that if a member of the public is acting strangely, they should inform an adult immediately.	• WRT staff	L
Handling equipment	Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, eye damage.	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check plan and equipment being used is appropriate for the needs/age of children • Check all equipment before use. Do not use any damaged or faulty equipment • Report any damaged or faulty equipment to WRT staff so that replacements can be ordered • Advise teachers prior to trip of the advised adult to pupil ratios, as specified in the 'School Information Pack' • Anyone using equipment unsafely will be asked to stop the activity and/or removed from the watercourse • Always consider participants' personal needs/disabilities and make adjustments where needed	• WRT staff	M



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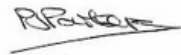
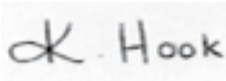
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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Rock measuring	Muscle strains, cuts, bruises, broken bones, head trauma, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT to demonstrate safe and proper use of callipers safely • Inform children that callipers are to be carried by side when not in use to reduce risk of poking other people • Inform group that rocks must be placed back into the watercourse carefully, not thrown or dropped back in as this could cause injury. If rocks are thrown, children may hear a warning whistle and be asked to exit the watercourse • Inform group that any rocks bigger than the callipers should not be picked up as they may be too heavy and could cause injury	• WRT staff	L
Kick sampling	Splinters, cuts and wounds, bumps, bruises, drowning, hypothermia, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform/reinforce following water safety guidelines strictly as previously mentioned when they arrived at watercourse • Check nets and other riverfly equipment before use • Outline potential danger of nets to group, including their weight and metal rim. Demonstrate how to carry net with heavy part downwards and by your side or resting on the riverbed • No more than four pupils per one WRT staff member to be kick sampling in river at same time • Inform children of correct use of equipment, including not squirting water with pipettes or flicking with spoons • If any equipment breaks (E.g. plastic spoons), children must inform WRT staff	• WRT staff	L
First Aid	Injuries or accidents that cannot be dealt with adequately	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure there is a qualified first aider present throughout the activity • Ensure there is a First Aid kit available during the activity	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Unstable riverbanks	Injury from falling, drowning, fatal injuries, hypothermia, broken bones	• WRT staff • School children • School staff	• No-one to go right to the edge of riverbanks • Reinforce no pushing, shoving or messing around • WRT staff member informs children where to stand when approaching riverbanks. This is made clear to the group through arm signals and informing children they must not go beyond where WRT staff member is standing • Inform children to not enter fenced areas unless lead by an adult or informed to do so	• WRT staff	L

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Environment	Injury, emotional harm	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Explain that group will be walking away from toilets and shelter at Congburn Nurseries, but will return to it at lunch time - Explain where toilets are (inside café area) - Explain children are not to visit toilets without asking permission from a supervising adult first - Leaders to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet - Leaders to remind children not to run down the hill and to not run in the woods due to rocks and tree trunks/roots - Leaders to explain not to eat anything found in the woodland, for example, wild mushrooms or berries - Site location may be subject to change due to surrounding landscape: some large rocks and boulders surround river valley at certain locations. The river and surrounding area will be checked on the morning of the trip, prior to the class arrival to check water levels and any alterations to the site previously (E.g. rockfalls or fallen trees due to storms).	WRT staff	L
Mushrooms & fungi	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, poisoning, paralysis, death	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Inform children of the presence of wild mushrooms, particularly when trips are taking place in the autumn - Remind children of the dangers of unknown mushrooms/fungi and the importance of not touching any - If a child touches a mushroom, they should wash their hands as soon as possible and keep them away from their mouths, noses and eyes before doing so. - If a child is suspected to have eaten a mushroom, call 111 for poisons advice. The mushroom may need to be collected and taken with the child for identification purposes. - If a child has eaten a mushroom and becomes unwell, call 999. - A working phone should be kept with the group at all times.	- WRT staff - School staff	M

Accessor Signature		Date Assessment Conducted	20.08.2026
Checked by Signature		Dated Checked By	20.08.2026

Crimdon Dene: Risk Assessment

General Information					Location Information	
Risk Assessment for:	Crimdon Dene				Start point location:	Crimdon Viaduct, Blackhall Colliery, Hartlepool What 3 Words location: galloped.cakewalk.frog
Risk Assessment carried out by:	Philip Parker				Start point postcode:	TS27 4BL
Last Updated:	20/08/26				End of trip collection location:	Crimdon Dene Beach Car Park, Coast Road, Blackhall Colliery, Hartlepool
Next review date:	August 2027				End of trip postcode:	TS27 4BL
Designated First Aiders	Philip Parker	Katie Hook	Jack Rivers	Hannah Clow	Beach site location:	What 3 Words location: weaned.annotated.supreme Down the stairs from the Dunes Café & turn left along the beach for approximately half a mile
First Aider Phone Numbers:	07456928171	07878474951	07481262310	07435663956	Nearest Hospital(s):	Peterlee Community Hospital- No A&E (4.1 miles) University Hospital North Durham- Nearest A&E (16 miles)
Medical Information						
Have participants been asked if they have any medical conditions prior to the event?					Yes	
If no, write 'N/A'. If yes, please disclose additional measures that will be put in place:					Follow procedure as agreed with school staff	

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Weather	Hypothermia, heatstroke, sunburn	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check weather report • Recommend suitable clothing, inform school (see School Information Pack) • Recommend sun cream & sun hats if necessary • Monitor working conditions and if people are in discomfort, stop work	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Slips, trips and falls	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, muscle strains	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of trip hazards including uneven footpaths, changes in underfoot conditions on walks and long grass • Tell children not to run during the trip • Tell children not to go in front of group leader unless instructed to do so • Reminder that footpaths and rocks may be even more slippery if wet and muddy • Advise suitable footwear before trip. School staff to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet or crocs • Wellies available to borrow-school should have stated sizes before trip • Warn group of change in terrain along beach • Advise school of appropriate staff to pupil ratios (as stated in 'School Information Pack')	• WRT staff	M
Steps to beach	Slips, trips and falls	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Stop children at top of steps down to Crimdon beach. Instruct that the group must be in pairs or single file while walking down the steps; watch where putting feet; no overtaking; no pushing/shoving; slow and steady; WRT staff member at front • Instruct children to use handrails when possible • Inform pupils: no overtaking, stay in pairs & no climbing on handrails	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Digging in sand/shale (spade use)	Eye injuries, head bumps, finger/hand injuries	• Children	• Before beach activity commences, demonstrate correct digging technique and potential dangers: flicking sand/rocks up, trapping fingers under spade & using spade too vigorously	• WRT staff • School staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Rock measuring	Muscle strains, cuts, bruises, broken bones, head trauma, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children how to use callipers safely and how they work, alongside potential dangers • Inform children callipers are to be carried by side when not in use to reduce risk of poking other people • Inform group they must not throw rocks or they may hear a warning whistle and maybe be removed from their group • Inform children they must not drop rocks back onto beach, when they are returning them as this may drop on their foot/toes or other people close to them • Inform group that rocks, that are bigger than the callipers, should not be picked up as they maybe too heavy and could cause more damage	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure cuts are all covered • Remind group to use hand washing facilities when in toilets • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth after having hands in river/sea until they have washed hands thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book, which will be contained within the group leader's First Aid kit.	• WRT staff • School staff	L
First Aid	Injuries or accidents that cannot be dealt with adequately	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure there is a qualified first aider present throughout the activity • Ensure there is an adequately stocked First Aid kit available during the activity	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Dogs off leads	Risk of dog attack; bites, infections	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Make children aware that dogs may be off leads • Instruct children to ignore dogs and not touch • If pupil is concerned about behaviour of dog, they must inform WRT staff member or teacher immediately • Remind children to watch out for and avoid dog poo	• WRT staff • School staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Falling into sea/changing tides	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check tide times and sea conditions prior to trip • Remind group to stay together when walking to beach site and not wander off (towards sea) • Once at beach activity site, inform group of where activities will take place and highlight coned areas where children are permitted to go in groups and which are out of bounds • Explain to children whether the tide is going in or out and this is why areas away from sea are marked • WRT staff monitor changes in tides closely; if tide comes in too close, WRT staff move coned/marked area accordingly • Encourage children to watch where placing feet carefully • Pupils to maintain an appropriate distance from the sea and stay further away from shore if sea conditions are rough • Children to be always supervised by the sea • One teacher/WRT staff member to act as a spotter, positioning themselves as the closest person to the sea, to watch children and ensure no one enters water • Ask children to stop, look and listen to sound of WRT staff whistle, when their attention is required and follow instructions carefully • WRT staff members always carry mobile phones to be used in case of emergency	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Walking on pavements by roads and coastal path	Traffic accidents: broken bones, cuts, bruises, internal injury, fatal injury	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• When walking by roads, children will be asked to walk in pairs or single file. • Children must cross roads as directed and supervised by accompanying adults, using designated crossings where possible • Ensure the accompanying adults are spaced out amongst the children, including at the front and back of the group • Advise teachers prior to trip of the suggested adult to pupil ratios, as specified in the 'School Information Pack'	• WRT staff	M

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Moving vehicles on road	Injury from vehicles, serious injuries, fatality	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform pupils they must always stay behind group leader and at least one adult to be placed at back • Ensure adults stop the traffic safely before allowing children to cross • Inform group in H&S talk that they will be walking by roads/car parks at different points in trip. These can be busier in better weather so must stay vigilant • Make everyone aware of possible hazards and supervise children • Make pupils aware of the potential presence of cyclists along the along the Crimdon Dene walking route	• WRT staff	M
Members of the public	Injury, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that all areas involved in the trip are open to members of the public • Ask children to be courteous and considerate towards members of the public • WRT staff to monitor and stay vigilant of settlers in tents within the Dene, approximately 50 metres from footpath. Keep distance, stay on walkway and encourage group to be respectful • Inform children that if a member of the public is acting strangely, they should inform an adult immediately	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Handling equipment	Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, eye damage.	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check plan and equipment being used is appropriate for the needs/age of children • Check all equipment before use. Do not use any damaged or faulty equipment • Report any damaged or faulty equipment to WRT staff so that replacements can be ordered • Advise teachers prior to trip of the advised adult to pupil ratios, as specified in the 'School Information Pack' • Anyone using equipment unsafely will be asked to stop the activity and/or removed from the watercourse • Always consider participants' personal needs/disabilities and make adjustments where needed	• WRT staff	L

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Toilets	Danger to participants from members of the public, lost children	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Explain that toilets can be found in Dunes Café and these are an approximate 30-minute walk from starting point • At lunch time, children are not to go to the toilet without a supervising adult • Ensure children are always supervised and do not strike up conversations with members of the public unless in the presence of an accompanying adult • WRT/School staff to check the toilets are clear of members of the public and any hazards before children enter • School staff member to wait outside toilets to avoid overcrowding and to ensure children return to private room after using toilets. There are two individual accessible cubicles to be used by everybody.	• WRT staff	M
Use of Dunes Café	Slips, trips, falls, bruises, head injuries, fall from height, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform group that they will be going through café to private room; no running, pushing or overtaking • Children not to leave private room without the consent of an adult. This includes to use the toilet facilities • No children to enter café unattended. This is only accessible out of the door after the toilets • Children can use sink in kitchen area to wash hands/fill up water bottles if no kettle is present on the day • Children not to touch or interfere with interactive whiteboard in private room	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Sand	Risk of injury to eyes, risk of ingesting	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Children will be told not to throw sand due to risk of it getting into eyes • Eye irrigation (wash) to be included in WRT First Aid kits • Children to wash hands after session so that they don't ingest sand	• WRT staff	L
Unstable cliff edges	Head injuries, broken bones, crushing, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff will inform children where to stand when passing & observing Crimdon cliffs • Group not to stand too close to cliffs due to crumbling/soft nature of magnesium limestone • Avoid cliff areas and outer edges of ravine during inclement weather due to increased risk of falling rocks	• WRT staff	M

Harehope Quarry: Risk Assessment

General Information					Location Information	
Risk Assessment for:	Harehope Quarry				Start point location:	Harehope Quarry, Frosterley, Bishop Auckland
Risk Assessment carried out by:	Philip Parker				Start point postcode:	DL13 2SG
Last Updated:	20/08/26				Parking site What 3 Words reference:	mailboxes.offices.waxer
Next review date:	August 2027				Harehope Burn What 3 Words reference:	portable.shuttled.searching
Designated First Aiders	Philip Parker	Katie Hook	Jack Rivers	Hannah Clow	Bollihope Burn What 3 Words reference:	highlighted.touchy.manliness
First Aider Phone Numbers:	07456928171	07878474951	07481262310	07435663956	Nearest Hospital(s):	Bishop Auckland Hospital- No A&E (13.9 miles) University Hospital North Durham- Nearest A&E (19 miles)

Medical Information	
Have participants been asked if they have any medical conditions prior to the event?	Yes
If no, write 'N/A'. If yes, please disclose additional measures that will be put in place:	Follow procedure as agreed with school staff

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Security of building <i>If indoor classroom is in use</i>	Members of public entering building, children leaving the building	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure that latch on door is locked, ensuring members of the public can not access the building freely • Ensure children cannot leave the building unattended • Ensure to inform other adults that the latch has been applied in case of a fire alarm	• WRT staff	M
Safety of building <i>If indoor classroom is in use</i>	Fire	• WRT staff • Children • School staff • Harehope residents & holiday cottage occupants	• Do not light either of the fires in the indoor classroom (one in classroom area and one in kitchen area)	• WRT staff	L
Weather	Hypothermia, heatstroke, sunburn	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check weather report • Recommend suitable clothing, inform school (see School Information Pack) • Recommend sun cream & sun hats if necessary • Monitor working conditions and if people are in discomfort, stop work	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Slips, trips and falls	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, muscle strains	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of trip hazards including uneven footpaths, changes in underfoot conditions on walks and long grass • Tell children not to run during the trip • Tell children not to go in front of group leader unless instructed to do so • Reminder that footpaths and rocks may be even more slippery if wet and muddy • Advise suitable footwear before trip. School staff to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet or crocs • Wellies available to borrow-school should have stated sizes before trip • Keep activity areas tidy at base by placing bags in pods and out of areas that are regularly being accessed. If children are in indoor classroom, inform them to leave bags on tables and coats on the back of chairs • Advise school of appropriate staff to pupil ratios (as stated in 'School Information Pack')	• WRT staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure all cuts are covered • Ensure everyone uses hand washing facilities, especially before lunch/eating • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth, nose or eyes after having them in watercourses until they have washed them thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book • Advise participants that if feverish symptoms (or similar health problems) develop within a week of participation, they should see their GP to check for leptospirosis • Check for signs of sewage outflow in river. If any is spotted, WRT staff to keep children out of the watercourse	• WRT staff	L
Water: ponds and rivers	Waterborne disease, drowning, head bumps, loss of consciousness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check river levels are safe before children enter watercourse • Make children aware of the hazard including steep banks • Tell children not to go near river unless accompanied or authorised as part of an activity • Before entering a watercourse, children will receive a water safety talk • Water safety instructions include keeping wide stance on riverbed, moving slowly, cautiously and sensibly, with arms of pockets and out to assist balance. Children must look at where they are placing feet carefully and must not stand on protruding rocks within the watercourse	• WRT staff	L
Tick-borne disease	Infection, illness (Lyme disease)	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Advise participants to not wear shorts prior to trip to reduce risk of ticks on legs. Inform school long sleeves tops are advisable if weather permits • Advise participants that if they find a tick on their body to visit the GP to have it removed • The presence of a bulls-eye rash around a tick bite may indicate Lyme disease and would require additional medical attention • If a bull's-eye rash is found, or a participant becomes unwell with unexplained feverish or flu-like symptoms within 3 weeks, the GP should be made aware of the possibility of Lyme disease • Note: WRT staff have observed deer on this site previously	• WRT staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure all cuts are covered • Ensure everyone uses hand washing facilities, especially before lunch/eating • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth, nose or eyes after having them in watercourses until they have washed them thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book • Advise participants that if feverish symptoms (or similar health problems) develop within a week of participation, they should see their GP to check for leptospirosis • Check for signs of sewage outflow in river. If any is spotted, WRT staff to keep children out of the watercourse	• WRT staff	L
Water: ponds and rivers	Waterborne disease, drowning, head bumps, loss of consciousness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check river levels are safe before children enter watercourse • Make children aware of the hazard including steep banks • Tell children not to go near river unless accompanied or authorised as part of an activity • Before entering a watercourse, children will receive a water safety talk • Water safety instructions include keeping wide stance on riverbed, moving slowly, cautiously and sensibly, with arms of pockets and out to assist balance. Children must look at where they are placing feet carefully and must not stand on protruding rocks within the watercourse	• WRT staff	L
Tick-borne disease	Infection, illness (Lyme disease)	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Advise participants to not wear shorts prior to trip to reduce risk of ticks on legs. Inform school long sleeves tops are advisable if weather permits • Advise participants that if they find a tick on their body to visit the GP to have it removed • The presence of a bulls-eye rash around a tick bite may indicate Lyme disease and would require additional medical attention • If a bull's-eye rash is found, or a participant becomes unwell with unexplained feverish or flu-like symptoms within 3 weeks, the GP should be made aware of the possibility of Lyme disease • Note: WRT staff have observed deer on this site previously	• WRT staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Kissing gates	Trapped fingers and limbs, crushing, broken bones	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Stop group before they go through first kissing gate • Inform children of danger if they let go of gate • Inform children of correct technique: passing gate to person behind without letting go • Inform children: one at a time through gate to avoid crushing	• WRT staff	L
Handling equipment	Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, eye damage.	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check plan and equipment being used is appropriate for the needs/age of children • Check all equipment before use. Do not use any damaged or faulty equipment • Report any damaged or faulty equipment to WRT staff so that replacements can be ordered • Advise teachers prior to trip of the advised adult to pupil ratios, as specified in the 'School Information Pack' • Anyone using equipment unsafely will be asked to stop the activity and/or removed from the watercourse • Always consider participants' personal needs/disabilities and make adjustments where needed	• WRT staff	M
Rock measuring	Muscle strains, cuts, bruises, broken bones, head trauma, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children how to use callipers safely and how they work, alongside potential dangers • Inform children callipers are to be carried by side when not in use to reduce risk of poking other people • Inform group they must not throw rocks or they may hear a warning whistle and maybe be removed from their group • Inform children they must not drop rocks back onto beach, when they are returning them as this may drop on their foot/toes or other people close to them • Inform group that rocks, that are bigger than the callipers, should not be picked up as they maybe too heavy and could cause more damage	• WRT staff • School staff	L
First Aid	Injuries or accidents that cannot be dealt with adequately	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure there is a qualified first aider present throughout the activity • Ensure there is an adequately stocked First Aid kit available during the activity	• WRT staff • School staff	L

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Fallen trees at Harehope Burn	Trips, falls, slips, scratches, scrapes, puncture wounds, twisted ankles	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Two fallen trees by river have been pruned by WRT staff member with chainsaw previously to remove sharp and protruding branches • Two fallen trees are monitored by WRT staff. WRT staff check if there are new twigs/branches protruding from tree that are unsafe and need to be removed • Inform group how to climb over fallen tree, using correct sideways technique and holding trunk with both hands • Inform group not to stand on branch along floor as this could be slippery	• WRT staff	L
Steps by the bridge	Slips, trips, falls, head bumps, broken bones	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Stop children before steps and inform them of steep slope and slippery stones • Inform children to create single file line, to go slowly and steadily, whilst keeping eyes on stones in front of them • Reinforce no pushing, shoving or overtaking • WRT staff member to position themselves and other adults at different points on the steps, particularly at points where they curve as this is a trickier spot to balance • Inform children at front to wait sensibly at small sign before bridge or after the gate at the top, and not go any further, while rest of group makes their way up/down	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Bridge near Harehope Burn & waterfall	Falls, slips, head trauma, broken bones, drowning	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform group that bridge is wooden but has wiring on floor to assist with grip. When on bridge they must keep still and no climbing/leaning over on fenced part of bridge • WRT staff member stands at corner of bridge, where there is a gap in the fencing, to avoid any children slipping/falling/wandering off • If group is above 30, only allow 30 at a time on bridge to avoid overcrowding and excess weight	• WRT staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Kick sampling <i>Only applicable if Riverfly activity taking place at Bollihope Burn</i>	Splinters, cuts and wounds, bumps, bruises, drowning, hypothermia, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform/reinforce following water safety guidelines strictly as previously mentioned when they arrived at watercourse • Check nets and other riverfly equipment before use • Outline potential danger of nets to group, including their weight and metal rim. Demonstrate how to carry net with heavy part downwards and by your side or resting on the riverbed • No more than four pupils per one WRT staff member to be kick sampling in river at same time • Inform children of correct use of equipment, including not squirting water with pipettes or flicking with spoons • If any equipment breaks (E.g. plastic spoons), children must inform WRT staff	• WRT staff	L
Environment	Injury, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Explain which areas are out of bounds at the start of the day • Explain where toilets are and the rules for using these • Explain children are not to visit toilets without asking permission from a supervising adult first • Leaders to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet • Leaders to remind children not to run down the hill and to not run in the woods due to rocks and tree trunks/roots • Leaders to explain not to eat anything found in the woodland, for example, wild mushrooms or berries	• WRT staff	L
Mushrooms & fungi	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, poisoning, paralysis, death	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children of the presence of wild mushrooms, particularly when trips are taking place in the autumn • Remind children of the dangers of unknown mushrooms/fungi and the importance of not touching any • If a child touches a mushroom, they should wash their hands as soon as possible and keep them away from their mouths, noses and eyes before doing so. • If a child is suspected to have eaten a mushroom, call 111 for poisons advice. The mushroom may need to be collected and taken with the child for identification purposes. • If a child has eaten a mushroom and becomes unwell, call 999. • A working phone should be kept with the group at all times.	• WRT staff • School staff	M



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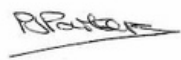
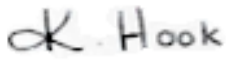


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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Unstable cliff faces	Injury from falling rocks	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• No-one to go near cliff faces. Not necessary as part of activities • Walk along cliff has fences to prevent people from getting too close to the edge • Inform children to not enter fenced areas unless lead by an adult or informed to do so	• WRT staff	L
Contact with farm animals	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that they will be walking through fields which may house farm animals including sheep, horses, goats, donkeys or cows • Children should not approach or try to attract any of these animals. They should keep noise to a minimum when passing farm animals to reduce the possibility of causing stress or adverse reactions. • If animals do approach, WRT staff to deal with this. Remind children to not run, shout, touch the animals or stand behind them (particularly horses) • Reinforce need to stay behind group leader • If cattle are blocking path in field on way back, group leader will adapt trip to take an alternative route back to base camp	• WRT staff	L

Accessor Signature		Date Assessment Conducted	21.08.2026
Checked by Signature		Dated Checked By	21.08.2026



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Hawthorn: Risk Assessment

General Information					Location Information	
Risk Assessment for:	Hawthorn Risk Assessment The Barn at Easington and Hawthorn Beach				Arrival and departure location:	What 3 Words location: skin.qualify.crinkled The Barn at Easington, Thorpe Lea East, Easington Colliery, Peterlee
Risk Assessment carried out by:	Jack Rivers				Postcode:	SR8 3UT
Last Updated:	20/08/26				Afternoon beach site location:	What 3 Words location: aliens.mole.simmer The beach beyond Hawthorn viaduct
Next review date:	August 2027				Nearest Hospital(s):	Peterlee Community Hospital (4.8 miles) <i>Minor injuries</i> <i>& urgent treatment centre, no A&E</i> University Hospital North Durham (13 miles) <i>Nearest A&E</i>
Designated First Aiders	Philip Parker	Katie Hook	Jack Rivers	Hannah Clow		
First Aider Phone Numbers:	07456928171	07878474951	07481262310	07435663956		

Medical Information	
Have participants been asked if they have any medical conditions prior to the event?	Yes
If no, write 'N/A'. If yes, please disclose additional measures that will be put in place:	Follow procedure as agreed with school staff

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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Weather	Hypothermia, heatstroke, sunburn	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check weather report • Recommend suitable clothing, inform school (see School Information Pack) • Recommend sun cream & sun hats if necessary • Monitor working conditions and liaise with teachers about safety and welfare of children	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Slips, trips and falls	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, muscle strains	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of trip hazards including uneven footpaths and changes in underfoot conditions on walks • Tell children not to run during the trip • Tell children not to go in front of group leader unless instructed to do so • Reminder that footpaths and rocks will be even more slippery if wet and muddy • Advise suitable footwear before trip; school staff to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet or crocs • Wellies available to borrow-school must have stated sizes before trip • Warn group of change in terrain along beach • Stop children at top of bank down to dried up riverbed. Instruct group must be in single file formation for this part; watch where putting feet; no overtaking; no pushing/shoving; slow and steady; WRT staff member at front and in front of any sheer drops • Advise school of appropriate staff to pupil ratios (as stated in 'School Information Pack') • Children to leave belongings at the site when visiting the beach so that they do not have to carry things and can focus on walking safely.	• WRT staff	M
Falling into sea/rockpools	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Have second H&S talk once group has arrived at beach • Remind children no pushing/shoving or messing around • Remind children to not step on green rocks as this usually indicates slippery seaweed • Encourage children to watch where placing feet carefully • Instruct children of correct technique: hands out of pockets and by side to assist balance and break fall; move slowly and steadily with a wide stance, like a crab; keep slight bend in knees • Encourage children to crouch over rockpools if possible, when examining for wildlife to keep a low centre of gravity	• WRT staff • School staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure all cuts are covered before contact with water • Remind group to use hand washing facilities, particularly before lunch • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth after having hands in river water/sea until they have washed hands thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book, which will be contained within the group leader's First Aid kit.	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Falling into sea/changing tides	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check tide times and sea conditions prior to trip • Remind group to stay together when walking to rock pooling site • Once at the beach, inform group where activities will take place and explain which areas are out of bounds • Tides will be explained and children will be told which way it is going • WRT staff monitor changes in tides closely; if tide comes in too close, WRT staff move children accordingly • Encourage children to watch where they are placing their feet • Pupils to maintain an appropriate distance from the sea, particularly if conditions are rough • Children to always be supervised while rock pooling • One teacher/WRT staff member to act as a spotter, positioning themselves as the closest person to the sea, to watch children and ensure no one enters water • Ask children to stop, look and listen when a whistle is blown. This means that their attention is required and they should follow instructions carefully • WRT staff members to always carry mobile phones and throw lines to be used in case of emergency	• WRT staff	L
First Aid	Injuries or accidents that cannot be dealt with adequately	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure there is a qualified first aider present throughout the activity • Ensure there is an adequately stocked First Aid kit available during the activity	• WRT staff • School staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Tick-borne disease	Infection, illness (Lyme disease)	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Advise participants to not wear shorts prior to trip to reduce risk of ticks on legs. Inform school long sleeves tops are advisable if weather permits • Advise participants that if they find a tick on their body to visit the GP to have it removed • The presence of a bulls-eye rash around a tick bite may indicate Lyme disease and would require additional medical attention • If a bull's-eye rash is found, or a participant becomes unwell with unexplained feverish or flu-like symptoms within 3 weeks, the GP should be made aware of the possibility of Lyme disease	• WRT staff	L
Overhanging trees and other undergrowth	Cuts and scratches, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of branch and root hazards • Avoid routes which are too hazardous and inaccessible • WRT staff members monitor new overhanging branches/tree growth on route and inform children	• WRT staff	L
Dogs off leads	Risk of dog attack; bites, infections	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Make children aware that dogs may be off leads • Instruct children to ignore dogs and not touch • If pupil is concerned about behaviour of dog, they must inform WRT staff member or teacher immediately • Remind children to watch out for and avoid dog poo	• WRT staff	L
Members of the public	Injury, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that some areas involved in the trip are open to members of the public • Ask children to be courteous and considerate towards members of the public • Inform children that if a member of the public is acting strangely, they should inform an adult immediately	• WRT staff • School staff	L



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Handling equipment	Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, eye damage.	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Check plan and equipment being used is appropriate for the needs/age of children - Check all equipment before use. Do not use any damaged or faulty equipment (clipboards, buckets, nets, aqueducts etc.) - Report any damaged or faulty equipment to all education staff so new ones can be ordered ASAP - Always consider participants' personal needs/disabilities and make adjustments where needed - Some equipment used to set up an activity, including a mallet, will be for use by adults only - Demonstrate how to handle and carry equipment safely and carefully and uphold high standards throughout activities. - Inform children of correct use of equipment, including not squirting water with pipettes or flicking with spoons. Anyone using equipment unsafely will be warned and/or asked to stop the activity	WRT staff	L
Barbed wire fences	Cuts, scratches, infection	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Warn children about the barbed wire on the fences they will walk by - Ask children to not touch barbed wire fences, keep their distance when possible and no pushing/shoving	WRT staff	M
Climbing over a fence	Slips, trips, falls, cuts, scratches, twisted ankles, broken bones	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Stop group before they arrive at the fence - Inform group of the correct technique to climb over the fence: one person at a time; step over sideways one leg at a time; always hold supporting post with two hands in case you lose your footing - Inform children to not jump off - Inform children that wooden surfaces might be slippery - Ask WRT staff member or teacher to stand by stile to assist/monitor children going over	- WRT staff - School staff	M
Sand	Risk of injury to eyes, risk of ingesting	- WRT staff - Children - School staff	- Children will be told not to throw sand due to risk of it getting into eyes - Eye irrigation (wash) to be included in WRT First Aid kits - Children to wash hands after session so that they don't ingest sand	WRT staff	L



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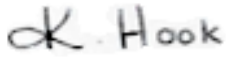
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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Unstable cliff edges	Head injuries, broken bones, crushing, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff member informs children where to stand when passing & observing cliffs • Group not to stand too close to cliffs, due to crumbling/soft nature of magnesium limestone • Avoid cliff areas and outer edges of ravine during inclement weather due to increased risk of falling rocks	• WRT staff	M
Wildlife- injury caused by animals found during riverfly or rock pooling	Cuts, bites, nips, stings	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Wash hands after coming into contact with any animals • Seals on the beach: follow guidelines to avoid seal and keep your distance, WRT to contact relevant authorities if seal is sick or injured • Do not touch jellyfish – inform WRT staff member if jellyfish is spotted and exit rockpool immediately • Do not touch dead sea creatures or get too close • Children will be taught some proper techniques for handling creatures like crabs • Children to be made aware of the risk of barnacles on rocks and how these can be sharp. They will be encouraged to test that a rock is smooth before trying to lift or move it. • Children will be advised to not hold leeches in their hands but to use the spoons provided	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Contact with farm animals	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that the fields we will walk through/alongside on the way to the beach may have livestock, specifically cows, in them. Children will be instructed to walk calmly and quietly and to not touch the cows if they come to the fence. • Reinforce need to stay behind group leader	• WRT staff	L
Contact with litter and debris	Cuts, bruises, infection	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Children not to touch litter • Make children aware of broken glass, potentially in rockpools too • In case of needlestick injury, squeeze wound and then clean. Visit A&E for a check up and take needle if possible. WRT staff have sharps boxes in their first aid kits which can be used. • Check rest areas for broken glass prior to use • WRT staff members to carry extra bucket/bin bags, where possible to place litter in if group finds any. This will be emptied at the public bins after the activity	• WRT staff • School staff	L

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Environment	Injury, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Explain which areas are out of bounds at the start of the day • Explain where toilets are and the rules for using these • Explain children are not to visit toilets without asking permission from a supervising adult first • Leaders to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet • Leaders to remind children not to run around the site or when walking to or from the beach • Leaders to explain not to eat anything found in the woodland, for example, wild mushrooms or berries	• WRT staff	L
Mushrooms & fungi	Stomach pain, vomiting, diarrhoea, poisoning, paralysis, death	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children of the presence of wild mushrooms, particularly when trips are taking place in the autumn • Remind children of the dangers of unknown mushrooms/fungi and the importance of not touching any • If a child touches a mushroom, they should wash their hands as soon as possible and keep them away from their mouths, noses and eyes before doing so. • If a child is suspected to have eaten a mushroom, call 111 for poisons advice. The mushroom may need to be collected and taken with the child for identification purposes. • If a child has eaten a mushroom and becomes unwell, call 999. • A working phone should be kept with the group at all times.	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Moving vehicles	Injury from vehicles, serious injuries, fatality	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Most of the site is not accessible to vehicles but there could be others arriving at the time time as the group • WRT staff to keep an eye out for moving vehicles and make everyone aware of any possible hazards as required • Ensure an adult is at the front and back of groups of children	• WRT staff	M

Accessor Signature		Date Assessment Conducted	20.08.2026
Checked by Signature		Dated Checked By	20.08.2026

Roker: Risk Assessment

General Information					Location Information	
Risk Assessment for:	Roker				Start point location:	National Glass Centre, Liberty Way, Sunderland
Risk Assessment carried out by:	Philip Parker				Postcode:	SR6 0GL
Last Updated:	21/08/26				End point location:	What 3 Words location: spray.lunch.chain On Roker Park Road, North Grove bus stop, middle entrance to park, leading to boating lake
Next review date:	August 2027				End point postcode:	SR6 9PG
Designated First Aiders	Philip Parker	Katie Hook	Jack Rivers	Hannah Clow	Rock pooling site location:	What 3 Words location: neat.shack.potato Round the corner from: Pier Fish & Chips, Marine Walk, Roker, Sunderland, SR6 0PL
First Aider Phone Numbers:	07456928171	07878474951	07481262310	07435663956	Nearest Hospital(s):	Peterlee Community Hospital (4.8 miles) <i>Minor injuries</i> <i>& urgent treatment centre, no A&E</i> University Hospital North Durham (13 miles) <i>Nearest A&E</i>
Medical Information						
Have participants been asked if they have any medical conditions prior to the event?					Yes	
If no, write 'N/A'. If yes, please disclose additional measures that will be put in place:					Follow procedure as agreed with school staff	

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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Weather	Hypothermia, heatstroke, sunburn	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check weather report • Recommend suitable clothing, inform school (see School Information Pack) • Recommend sun cream & sun hats if necessary • Monitor working conditions and liaise with teachers about safety and welfare of children	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Slips, trips and falls	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, muscle strains	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of trip hazards including uneven footpaths and changes in underfoot conditions on walks • Tell children not to run during the trip • Tell children not to go in front of group leader unless instructed to do so • Reminder that footpaths and rocks will be even more slippery if wet and muddy • Advise suitable footwear before trip; school staff to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet or crocs • Wellies available to borrow-school must have stated sizes before trip • Warn group of change in terrain along beach • Advise school of appropriate staff to pupil ratios (as stated in 'School Information Pack') • Warning of uneven surfaces on Roker Rocks, advise school of appropriate staff to pupil ratios (as stated in 'School Information Pack'). • Stop children at top of steep steps down to slipway car park. Instruct group must be in single file formation down steps; watch where putting feet; no overtaking; no pushing/shoving; slow and steady; WRT staff member at front	• WRT staff	M
Falling into sea/rockpools	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Have second H&S talk once group has arrived at beach • Remind children no pushing/shoving or messing around • Remind children to not step on green rocks as this usually indicates slippery seaweed • Encourage children to watch where placing feet carefully • Instruct children of correct technique: hands out of pockets and by side to assist balance and break fall; move slowly and steadily with a wide stance, like a crab; keep slight bend in knees • Encourage children to crouch over rockpools if possible, when examining for wildlife to keep a low centre of gravity	• WRT staff • School staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure all cuts are covered before contact with water • Remind group to use hand washing facilities, particularly before lunch • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth after having hands in river water/sea until they have washed hands thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book, which will be contained within the group leader's First Aid kit.	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Water: River Wear's mouth	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma, illness, loss of consciousness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Instruct children to stay within fenced areas during marina walk; do not climb up on fences and stay back from edges, whenever possible • WRT staff member carries throw float at all times on river mouth walk	• WRT staff	M
Water: North Sea, rough sea conditions, waves, changing tides	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma, illness, loss of consciousness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check tide times and sea conditions prior to trip • Tell children not to go near the sea edge as waves and tides can be powerful and unpredictable • When children arrive at the beach, they must observe the water safety talk before entering the rockpools • Instruct children which areas they are allowed in with supervising adults and where is out of bounds • Ask children to stop, look and listen when a whistle is blown. This means that their attention is required and they should follow instructions carefully • Pupils not to enter the sea and to maintain an appropriate distance from it, especially if conditions are rough. • One teacher/WRT staff member to act as a spotter, positioning themselves as the closest person to the sea, to watch children and ensure no one enters water • Children to be always supervised by the sea and in rockpools • WRT staff members to always carry mobile phones and throw lines to be used in case of emergency	• WRT staff • School staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
First Aid	Injuries or accidents that cannot be dealt with adequately	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure there is a qualified first aider present throughout the activity • Ensure there is an adequately stocked First Aid kit available during the activity	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Walking on pavements by roads and coastal path	Traffic accidents: broken bones, cuts, bruises, internal injury, fatal injury	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• When walking by roads, children to walk in pairs or single file • Children must cross roads as directed and supervised by accompanying adults, using designated crossings where possible • Ensure the accompanying adults are spaced out amongst the children, including front and back of group	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Dogs off leads	Risk of dog attack; bites, infections	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Make children aware that dogs may be off leads • Instruct children to ignore dogs and not touch • If pupil is concerned about behaviour of dog, they must inform WRT staff member or teacher immediately • Remind children to watch out for and avoid dog poo • Dogs are not allowed on the beach between 1st May and 30th September	• WRT staff	L
Moving vehicles on road	Injury from vehicles, serious injuries, fatality	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform pupils they must always stay behind group leader and at least one adult to be placed at back • Ensure adults stop any traffic safely before allowing children to cross • Inform group in H&S talk that they will be walking by roads at different points in trip. These can be busier in better weather so they must stay vigilant • Make pupils aware of the presence of cyclists along the along the riverside C2C route	• WRT staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Members of the public	Injury, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that all areas involved in the trip are open to members of the public • Ask children to be courteous and considerate towards members of the public • Stop and inform group of potential fishermen by river mouth. Children must stay away from fishing rods and wait for WRT staff member to walk past safely • Inform children that if a member of the public is acting strangely, they should inform an adult immediately	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Handling equipment	Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, eye damage.	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check plan and equipment being used is appropriate for the needs/age of children • Check all equipment before use. Do not use any damaged or faulty equipment • Report any damaged or faulty equipment to WRT staff so that replacements can be ordered • Advise teachers prior to trip of the advised adult to pupil ratios, as specified in the 'School Information Pack' • Anyone using equipment unsafely will be asked to stop the activity and/or removed from the rockpools • Always consider participants' personal needs/disabilities and make adjustments where needed	• WRT staff	M
Use of public access site, including toilets	Danger to participants from members of the public, lost children	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Explain where public toilets are (Roker beachfront) and these are the first accessible toilets on trip • Explain children are not to go to the toilet without a supervising adult • Ensure children are always supervised and do not strike up conversations with members of the public unless in the presence of an accompanying adult • Children supervised by school staff when using public toilets • WRT/School staff to check toilets for members of the public and unwanted objects before children enter • Note: public toilets will only used if private room at Adventure Sunderland facility is unavailable or if a member of the group needs to use the toilet before reaching the beachfront	• WRT staff • School staff	L



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Use of Adventure Sunderland facility	Slips, trips, falls, bruises, head injuries, fall from height, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform group that they will be going up stairs to a private room so should watch their step. There is to be no running, pushing or overtaking • School staff member to wait outside toilets to avoid overcrowding and to ensure children return to private room after using toilets • Children not to leave private room without the consent of an adult. This includes to use the toilet facilities • No children to enter balcony. This is only accessible through locked doors, which would only be opened on warm days to allow for fresh air flow. In this scenario, children to be informed not to go through doors. Staff members to sit in configuration facing these doors for clear line of vision • Other school/community groups maybe using different rooms within the facility – monitor movements of other groups and staff accordingly	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Sand	Risk of injury to eyes, risk of ingesting	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Children will be told not to throw sand due to risk of it getting into eyes • Eye irrigation (wash) to be included in WRT First Aid kits • Children to wash hands after session so that they don't ingest sand	• WRT staff	L
Unstable cliff edges	Head injuries, broken bones, crushing, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff member informs children where to stand when passing & observing cliffs • Group not to stand too close to cliffs, due to crumbling/soft nature of magnesium limestone • Avoid cliff areas and outer edges of ravine during inclement weather due to increased risk of falling rocks	• WRT staff	M



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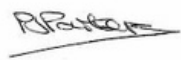
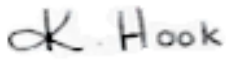


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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Wildlife- injury caused by animals found during rock pooling	Cuts, bites, nips, stings, scratches	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Wash hands after coming into contact with any animals • Seals on the beach: follow guidelines to avoid seal and keep your distance, WRT to contact relevant authorities if seal is sick or injured • Do not pick up jellyfish – inform WRT staff member if jellyfish is spotted and exit rockpool immediately • Do not pick up dead sea creatures or get too close • Children will be taught some proper techniques for handling creatures like crabs • Children to be made aware of the risk of barnacles on rocks and how these can be sharp. They will be encouraged to test that a rock is smooth before trying to lift or move it.	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Contact with litter and debris	Cuts, bruises, infection	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Children not to touch litter • Make children aware of broken glass, potentially in rockpools too • In case of needlestick injury, squeeze wound and then clean. Take participant and needle to A&E for check-up. WRT staff have sharps boxes in their first aid kits which can be used to dispose of or transport needles. • Check rest areas for broken glass prior to use • WRT staff members to carry extra bucket/bin bags, where possible to place litter in if group finds any. This will be emptied at the public bins after the activity • Stay vigilant for non-toxic plastic nurdles (1-5mm beads) from pollution incident in July 2026	• WRT staff • School staff	L

Accessor Signature		Date Assessment Conducted	21.08.2026
Checked by Signature		Dated Checked By	21.08.2026



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Wearhead: Risk Assessment

General Information					Location Information	
Risk Assessment for:	Wearhead River Trip				Site Location:	Wearhead Village Hall, 42 Front St, Wearhead, Bishop Auckland
Risk Assessment carried out by:	Philip Parker				Site Postcode:	DL13 1BL
Last Updated:	21/08/26				Parking Site What 3 Words location:	totally.grandest.carefully
Next review date:	August 2027				Work Site What 3 Words location 1 (Village Hall):	interview.things.jeep
Designated First Aiders	Philip Parker	Katie Hook	Jack Rivers	Hannah Clow	Work Site What 3 Words location 2 (Measurement & kick sample site-Killhope Burn)	studio.shackles.eyelid
First Aider Phone Numbers:	07456928171	07878474951	07481262310	07435663956	Nearest Hospital(s):	University Hospital of Durham – nearest A & E (31 miles) Bishop Auckland Hospital - No A & E (26 miles)
Defibrillator locations:	Wall outside Wearhead Village Hall (at bottom of stairs) & Cowshill & Lanehead Village Hall					
Medical Information						
Have participants been asked if they have any medical conditions prior to the event?					Yes	
If no, write 'N/A'. If yes, please disclose additional measures that will be put in place:					Follow procedure as agreed with school staff	

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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Village Hall kitchen	Burns	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Kettles are kept away from sink area in kitchen • Children are monitored by WRT staff member or school staff member when washing hands at sink in kitchen • Children told to only enter kitchen area if supervised by adult • Adults and children made aware of fire exit on left door of kitchen during H&S talk • Children are not to leave premises unless accompanied by an adult, unless emergency evacuation is required	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Weather	Hypothermia, heatstroke, sunburn	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check weather report • Recommend suitable clothing, inform school (see School Information Pack) • Recommend sun cream & sun hats if necessary • Monitor working conditions and liaise with teachers about safety and welfare of children	• WRT staff • School staff	M
Slips, trips and falls	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, muscle strains	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of trip hazards including uneven footpaths and changes in underfoot conditions on walks • Tell children not to run during the trip • Tell children not to go in front of group leader unless instructed to do so • Reminder that footpaths and rocks will be even more slippery if wet and muddy • Advise suitable footwear before trip; school staff to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet or Crocs • Wellies available to borrow-school must have stated sizes before trip • Warn group of change in terrain along beach • Advise school of appropriate staff to pupil ratios (as stated in 'School Information Pack') • Tell children to stay on PROW until reach river as small holes/dips in surrounding land have been spotted that could be trip/ankle twisting hazard	• WRT staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Falling into river	Hypothermia, drowning, broken bones, head trauma	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that most areas of river are not fenced off in H&S talk • Tell group to stay on path and keep away from the river, in single file formation, when instructed • Remind children no pushing/shoving or overtaking • Remind children to always stay behind group leader • Group leader carries emergency throw float	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Water borne illness/other infection	Infection, illness	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure all cuts are covered before contact with water • Remind group to use hand washing facilities, particularly before lunch • Inform children not to place hands in or near mouth after having hands in river water/sea until they have washed hands thoroughly • Cuts sustained during work must be treated ASAP and recorded in a WRT staff member's accident book, which will be contained within the group leader's First Aid kit.	• WRT staff	L
Water: rivers	Waterborne disease, drowning, head bumps, loss of consciousness, drowning	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• WRT staff to check river levels are safe before children enter watercourse • Make children aware of any hazards including steep banks • Tell children not to go near any water unless accompanied or authorised as part of an activity • Before entering a watercourse, children must listen to a water safety talk • Water safety instructions include keeping wide stance on riverbed, moving slowly, cautiously and sensibly, with arms of pockets and out to assist balance. Children must look at where they are placing feet carefully and must not stand on protruding rocks within the watercourse	• WRT staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Tick-borne disease	Infection, illness (Lyme disease)	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Advise participants to not wear shorts prior to trip to reduce risk of ticks on legs. Inform school long sleeves tops are advisable if weather permits • Advise participants that if they find a tick on their body to visit the GP to have it removed • The presence of a bulls-eye rash around a tick bite may indicate Lyme disease and would require additional medical attention • If a bull's-eye rash is found, or a participant becomes unwell with unexplained feverish or flu-like symptoms within 3 weeks, the GP should be made aware of the possibility of Lyme disease • Note: deer have been spotted on this site by WRT staff	• WRT staff	L
Overhanging trees and other undergrowth	Cuts and scratches, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Identify and make children aware of branch hazards • Avoid routes which are too hazardous and inaccessible • WRT staff members monitor new overhanging branches/tree growth on route and inform children • Children not to go under overhanging tree on riverbanks, whilst in the watercourse	• WRT staff	L
Dogs off leads	Risk of dog attack; bites, infections	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Make children aware that dogs may be off leads • Ignore dogs and do not touch • If pupil is concerned about behaviour of dog, they must inform WRT staff member or teacher immediately	• WRT staff	L
Moving vehicles	Injury from vehicles, serious injuries, fatality	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• The Public Right of Way at Wearhead is not accessible for public vehicles; however, the drop off location may contain moving vehicles on the main road as well as outside the village hall. WRT staff to assist school staff in checking for oncoming vehicles and blocking the road for safe crossing to and from the village hall • Make everyone aware of any possible hazards and supervise children • Ensure an adult is at the front and back of groups of children • Children line up on pavement before crossing	• WRT staff • School staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Members of the public	Injury, emotional harm	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that some areas involved in the trip are open to members of the public • Ask children to be courteous and considerate towards members of the public • Inform children that if a member of the public is acting strangely, they should inform an adult immediately	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Barbed wire fences	Cuts, scratches, infection	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Warn children about the barbed wire on the fences they will walk by • Ask children to not touch barbed wire fences, keep their distance when possible and no pushing/shoving	• WRT staff	M
Contact with farm animals	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, fatal injuries, disease	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children that they will be walking through fields with sheep and to not directly approach or touch any • Inform children sheep are rarely aggressive • Reinforce need to stay behind group leader • Ask children to keep noise to a minimum when passing farm animals to reduce likelihood of causing stress or adverse reactions	• WRT staff	L
Handling equipment	Cuts, bruises, puncture wounds, eye damage.	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Check plan and equipment being used is appropriate for the needs/age of children • Check all equipment before use. Do not use any damaged or faulty equipment • Report any damaged or faulty equipment to WRT staff so that replacements can be ordered • Advise teachers prior to trip of the advised adult to pupil ratios, as specified in the 'School Information Pack' • Anyone using equipment unsafely will be asked to stop the activity and/or removed from the watercourse • Always consider participants' personal needs/disabilities and make adjustments where needed	• WRT staff	M



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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Rock measuring	Muscle strains, cuts, bruises, broken bones, head trauma, eye damage	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform children how to use callipers safely and how they work, alongside potential dangers • Inform children callipers are to be carried by side when not in use to reduce risk of poking other people • Inform group they must not throw rocks or they may hear a warning whistle and maybe be removed from their group • Inform children they must not drop rocks back onto beach, when they are returning them as this may drop on their foot/toes or other people close to them • Inform group that rocks, that are bigger than the callipers, should not be picked up as they maybe too heavy and could cause more damage	• WRT staff • School staff	L
Kick sampling	Splinters, cuts and wounds, bumps, bruises, drowning, hypothermia, fatal injuries	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform/reinforce following water safety guidelines strictly as previously mentioned when they arrived at watercourse • Check nets and other riverfly equipment before use • Outline potential danger of nets to group, including their weight and metal rim. Demonstrate how to carry net with heavy part downwards and by your side or resting on the riverbed • No more than four pupils per one WRT staff member to be kick sampling in river at same time • Inform children of correct use of equipment, including not squirting water with pipettes or flicking with spoons • If any equipment breaks (E.g. plastic spoons), children must inform WRT staff	• WRT staff	L
First Aid	Injuries or accidents that cannot be dealt with adequately	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Ensure there is a qualified first aider present throughout the activity • Ensure there is a adequately stocked First Aid kit available during the activity	• WRT staff • School staff	L



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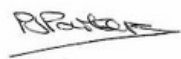
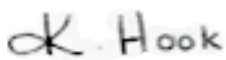
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What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Environment	Injuries and lost children	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Explain at the start of the activity that we will be walking away from toilets and shelter at Wearhead Village Hall, but will return at lunch time • Explain where 2 x unisex toilets are (inside village hall) • Explain that children must ask an adult before going to the toilets • Leaders to ensure appropriate footwear is always worn. No bare feet or Crocs • Children not to eat anything found in the woodland, for example, wild mushrooms or berries • Site location may be subject to change due to surrounding landscape: some large rocks and boulders surround river valley at certain locations. The river and surrounding area will be checked on the morning of the trip, prior to the class arrival to check water levels and any alterations to the site previously (E.g. rockfalls or fallen trees due to storms).	• WRT staff	L
Unstable or undefined riverbanks	Injury from falling, drowning, fatal injuries, hypothermia, broken bones	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• No-one to go right to the edge of riverbanks • Reinforce no pushing/shoving or silly behaviour • WRT staff members to inform children of where to stand when approaching riverbanks during river walk. This is made clear to the group through arm signals and informing children they must not go beyond where WRT staff member is standing • Inform children to not enter fenced areas unless lead by an adult or informed to do so • On measurement/kick sampling site (work site 2), children must enter and exit river beach on flat section, avoiding climbing small overhang as this could trigger subsidence	• WRT staff	L
Gates	Trapped fingers and limbs, crushing, broken bones, trips and falls	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Stop group before they go through first gate • Inform children of danger if they let go of gate • Inform children of correct technique: passing gate to person behind without letting go or adult holds gate open • Inform children that they should go through the gate one at a time • Inform adults and children that gates must be shut after last person goes through	• WRT staff	L

What is the hazard?	What are the risks?	Who is at risk?	Precautions to mitigate/control risk	Responsible Person(s)	Overall Risk Rating (after precautions)
Bridges	Falls, slips, head trauma, broken bones, drowning	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Inform group that this bridge is wooden so might be slippery. When on the bridge children must not jump, climb over or lean on the fence • WRT staff member stands at end of bridge, where fencing stops to avoid any children slipping/falling/wandering off • Instruct children to cross bridge in single file formation • Make group aware of steps at start and end of bridge and not to jump on or off • Inform children to take care on stone bridge overlooking waterfall-no leaning over sides, jumping or climbing and single file to avoid squashing	• WRT staff	M
Burtree Waterfall at Cowsgill	Slips, trips and falls, head bumps, loss of consciousness, drowning	• WRT staff • Children • School staff	• Take group the alternative route to avoid steepest part of bank on approaching area to view waterfall • Inform children not to stand under overhang or waterfall. This won't be possible anyway as children will be informed not to pass positioned WRT staff member • As above to avoid deep sections of water in and around plunge pool • Group will not be able to view waterfall from bottom if weather is very poor or if water levels are deemed too high • Inform group before walk to waterfall that they will have to move slowly and steadily, following leader closely and staying in watercourse, whenever possible, avoiding slippery stones on banks, thus potential falls from a higher elevation	• WRT staff	M

Accessor Signature		Date Assessment Conducted	21.08.2026
Checked by Signature		Dated Checked By	21.08.2026