

5th Dunstable ScoutGroup - Risk Assessment

Version	Produced By	Date	Content
1	Brian Calvert	22/11/2020	Base version
2	Jenny Ryder	25/06/2023	

Leader lead night hike			Date of next review
Hazard/Risk	To Whom	Controls	Changes which need controlling
Extreme weather – possibly causing hypothermia, sun or heat stroke, dehydration	Party	Monitor weather in advance of activity, if heavy rain forecast consider alternative activity. Check weather before start of hike.	25/6/25
		Appropriate clothing to be worn for hot/cold weather. In hot weather remember hat and sunblock.	
		Check everyone’s dress at start of hike and those with inappropriate dress should not be allowed to participate.	
		In hot weather, ensure that all participants carry a waterbottle and keep hydrated throughout the activity	
		Parents to be advised via email in the week prior to the event	
Mistake with navigation - increased risk of unknown hazards, exhaustion.	Party	Leader to be adequately equipped e.g. map, compass, GPS, torch.	
		Leader to be familiar with route particularly at night.	
		Charged mobile phones to be carried by adults. Adults to carry whistles.	
		Head count to be carried out before start and several times on route.	
		Adult to walk to front of hike and another to bring up the rear of the hikers.	
Roads and Traffic – injuries from collision between vehicles and party members	Party	Avoid roads for a night hike if at all possible	
		Brief party about crossing and walking along Roads	
		Adults directly supervise crossing (one on each side of the crossing point). Use designated crossing points if possible.	
		Leaders at the front and back of the group wear hi-visibility jackets if walking along roads.	
		Walk single file when on a road.	
Terrain – uneven ground, branches, nettles, animals, livestock, and so on	Party	Group leader to check route before hike and ensure it is suitable for a night hike.	
		Group leader to carry first aid kit and have appropriate training.	
		Advise participants on suitable footwear prior to hike	
		Brief party on safely navigating the terrain.	
		Encourage everyone to wear long trousers if concerns over foliage or ticks.	
		Brief party on how to behave if having to cross fields containing livestock.	
		Where possible avoid routes which require walking close to water, particularly at night	
		Group leader to check route before hike and ensure it is suitable for a night hike.	

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Water - canals, lakes etc	Party	Advise participants of water hazard, where possible keep on the far side of the path from the water	
		Increase the regularity of head counts	

**Considerations for Squirrels**

Hazard/Risk	To Whom	Controls	Changes which need controlling
Squirrels- increased risk of wandering off due to distraction	Young People	Regular counts. Assign the young people a leader that they walk with.	
		Be aware of potential distractions and keep a closer eye in these areas	

**Considerations for Beavers**

Hazard/Risk	To Whom	Controls	Changes which need controlling
Beavers - increased risk of wandering off due to distraction	Young People	Regular counts. Assign the young people a leader that they walk with.	
		Be aware of potential distractions and keep a closer eye in these areas	

**Considerations for Cubs**

Hazard/Risk	To Whom	Controls	Changes which need controlling
Cubs- increased risk of wandering off due to distraction	Young People	Regular counts. Assign the young people a leader that they walk with.	
		Be aware of potential distractions and keep a closer eye in these areas	

**Considerations for Scouts**

Hazard/Risk	To Whom	Controls	Changes which need controlling