



# Risk assessment form (H&S)

<b>Name of assessor(s)</b>	Dave Robinson, Reviewed and unchanged by Tom Tier	<b>Group / Establishment:</b>	SORLS / SSE
<b>Date</b>	20/12/2017, Reviewed on 12/12/2018 (No Changes)		

<b>What is the workplace / activity / equipment / conditions (delete as appropriate) being assessed:</b>	<b>How was the assessment done?</b> e.g. desktop exercise, site visit, in consultation with employees, managers, safety representatives?	<b>Next review date:</b>
		December 2018
The Quantock Hills are an area of outstanding natural beauty and can be explored with many groups. The routes used vary depending on if the walk is to last a few hours, half a day or a whole day. Walks can include dam building and shelter or den building. Most routes start and finish from Kilve Court although Holford Layby and Dead Woman's Ditch and NCS Campsite can also be used as a starting point for longer walks. Walks can be an evening activity so can take place during dusk or night time conditions.	Onsite, site visit and desktop exercise using map.	<b>Mobile reception / nearest landline</b>
		Poor - Instructor to carry offsite phone / own mobile Vodafone + EE seem to be best Various houses near to routes

Who could be harmed, and how?	What is already being done to control the risks?	*Risk Rating Severity x Likelihood			What further action is recommended to reduce risks further?	Action by whom?	Date action due	Date action done
		S	L	S x L				
All participants – slips, trips and falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear session brief/s about safe movement across terrain at start of session and when encountering different / difficult terrain e.g. streams, steep ground etc.</li> <li>Suitable footwear to be worn – walking boots, trainers, walking shoes</li> <li>Close monitoring of participants by instructor</li> <li>Groups staff briefed to support instructor e.g. be at the back of group</li> </ul>	2	4	8	Route selection based upon ability of group and age. Night walks to be on well defined paths and group to be made aware of conditions underfoot at regular intervals.	Lead instructor	Continuous	

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<b>All participants</b> – immersion in cold water / drowning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear session brief/s about safe movement in streams</li> <li>• Safe area to be identified by instructor and shared with all participants with clear boundaries</li> <li>• Paddling in streams only in suitable conditions</li> <li>• Close monitoring of participants by instructor and regular guidance provided</li> <li>• Weather forecast to be checked for that day</li> </ul>	5	1	5				
<b>All participants</b> – Road traffic accident	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear session brief/s about walking on roads / lanes</li> <li>• Walk on right hand side</li> <li>• Only 2 participants abreast</li> <li>• Alert group of oncoming traffic by shouting “car”</li> <li>• Change to single file on right hand side and stop to allow passing traffic to get by</li> <li>• Adult at front and rear of group to wear high visibility clothing and at night / in low light to carry a torch</li> <li>• Road crossings to be managed by instructor with support of group staff</li> <li>• Group to cross as one and additional adults to act as marshals</li> </ul>	5	1	5				
<b>All participants</b> – Dehydration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the walk is over 2 hours long instructor must carry liquids or ensure group are carrying enough liquids</li> <li>• Participants encouraged to carry own water bottle / drink</li> <li>• Regular stops to be made and participants encouraged to drink</li> <li>• Weather forecast to be checked and group briefed accordingly</li> </ul>	5	1	5				

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<b>All participants</b> – Damage to farmland and the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Countryside code to be explained to participants</li> <li>• Footpaths to be followed at all times</li> <li>• Gates to be left as they were found</li> <li>• Noise levels to be kept to a minimum</li> </ul>	1	3	3				
<b>All participants</b> – Contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All participants to be briefed not to pick up faecal matter / fungi</li> <li>• All participants to wash hands at the end of the session</li> <li>• Monitoring of participants who have come into contact with faecal matter / fungi or ingested stream water</li> </ul>	3	2	6				
<b>All participants</b> – Poor behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear safety brief at beginning of session with expectations made clear to participants</li> <li>• Constant monitoring and reminding of group by instructor</li> <li>• Brief group staff on their role in supporting with managing behaviour</li> <li>• Reiteration of rules from safety briefing</li> <li>• Early intervention by instructor in any poor behaviour</li> </ul>	4	2	8	Instructor to make themselves aware of groups needs prior to session in liaison with staff, using information in instructor office and notes in diary.	Instructor	Continuous	
<b>All participants</b> – Environmental factors e.g. flooding, fallen trees etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clear brief to be influenced by weather forecast and route choice</li> <li>• Weather forecast to be checked</li> <li>• Consider potential route changes based on this information</li> </ul>	3	1	3				
<b>All participants</b> – Contact with wild animals / grazing stock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Countryside code to be explained to participants</li> <li>• Footpaths to be followed at all times</li> <li>• Gates to be left as they were found</li> <li>• Noise levels to be kept to a minimum – brief participants of quite passage past animals</li> <li>• Plot appropriate diversions of livestock</li> </ul>	3	2	6				

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<p><b>All participants</b> – Getting lost / going with an unknown person</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instructor to maintain close control of group at all times and ensure they can see the back of the group</li> <li>Instructors should work with group staff to employ a 'check check' system to regular headcounts</li> <li>Clear safety briefing emphasising the importance of staying together as a group</li> <li>Brief group staff to assist with keeping the group together</li> <li>Include boundaries for any locations where the group stops, dam builds, shelter builds and monitor them</li> <li>Torches to be carried in low light and on night walks</li> <li>Off site information to be completed on board in instructor office including route description, contact number and eta</li> <li>Off site walking bag to be carried containing map and compass as well as a shelter and grid references and contact details for the centre / duty mobile</li> </ul>	5	1	5				

**Please now pass this assessment to your manager for approval**

<b>Name of assessor's manager:</b>	Kirsty Darlington	<b>Date:</b>		<b>Manager's comments</b>	
<b>Signature:</b>					

